

# THE NOE VALLEY VOICE

## Neighborhood Helps Couple Pick up the Pieces After Noe St. Fire

By Jane Underwood

By 6:04 p.m., on Friday, May 17, flames could already be seen shooting from the windows of a third-floor flat at 1125 Noe St., when the first fire report was called in to the San Francisco Fire Department.

Firefighters from 26th Street's Station 11 rushed to the burning building, located between Jersey and 24th, and managed, despite fiercely howling winds, to put out the fire before it spread to other units in the building.

No human lives were lost in the fire, but two cats, owned by residents Christopher and Deborah Stuart, died from smoke inhalation. "The saddest thing was that we lost our cats," said Deborah, who is seven months pregnant with her first child.

"And we lost everything in the baby's room, which looked like 'Playland.' You know how first babies are." The fire started in the baby's nursery, when a radio electrical cord short-circuited.

"Chris left the house at 5:40 p.m. to pick me up at work," Deborah added, "and by the time we were back at 6:20, they had the fire pretty well contained." Damages were estimated at \$50,000 to the building, and \$5,000 to the contents of the Stuarts' apartment.

According to Assistant Fire Chief Bill Richardson, the firefighters' strategy of cutting ventilation holes in the roof, plus doing some efficient salvaging work, kept the fire from spreading. However, there was some roof damage next-door at 1133



The block of Noe Street between Jersey and 24th—site of a disastrous automobile collision several months ago—was once again littered with rubble after the top-floor flat at 1125 Noe St. caught fire May 17. PHOTO BY ED BURNIN

Noe St., estimated at \$1,000, and slight water damage to other parts of the building.

"The firemen were wonderful," noted Deborah. "They saved our documents,

which were just in a cardboard box. They really know what to yank, and they saved

Continued on Page 2

## New Police Officer Walks The Beat in Upper Noe

By Steve Steinberg

As of June 1, the part of the neighborhood that's come to be known as Upper Noe Valley will have its own beat cop: Steve Ratto.

After spending 3½ years as a plain-clothes narcotics officer, Ratto sees his new beat as a welcome assignment. That is not to say that he regards it as some kind of cushy promotion. But the 10-year veteran of the San Francisco Police Department says the Noe Valley post will represent "a nice change and a new challenge."

With this assignment, Officer Ratto will join the Police Department's two-year-old Community Police Officer Program (CPOP), which was designed to bring local police and the community closer together. He'll walk a beat stretching from 30th and Mission to Sanchez and Army streets, and back to Mission Street via Army Street. He may also do a little patrolling on his mountain hike this summer, but he hasn't decided for sure yet.

Ratto, who works under the auspices of the Ingleside Police Station, plans to meet local residents and merchants and "let people know they can stop me and discuss their problems."

Although he responded to calls in Noe Valley during his earlier days as a patrol car officer, Ratto admits that he will need to familiarize himself with the area.

But Ratto already knows that one of the main problems he will have to deal with is juvenile crime and mischief. He

Continued on Page 5

## A Caution to Cat Lovers: Beware of FIV

By Jon Sindell

Twenty-sixth Street resident Alison Glazier was shocked when the veterinarian told her that her cat had "FIV."

"At first I thought he meant feline leukemia," Glazier says, "and I couldn't believe it, because my kitty had been getting his feline leukemia shots all along."

But according to Glazier's vet, her part-Siamese cat, Dennis the Menace, had been infected with the feline immunodeficiency virus, a deadly and as yet incurable virus that's now on the prowl among San Francisco's feline population.

According to veterinarian Ken Gorczyca, president of the Noe Valley-based organization Pets Are Wonderful Support (PAWS), the FIV virus was discovered just four years ago. Gorczyca says partial credit for the discovery of the virus belongs to a Santa Rosa cat owner who, in the early '80s, "was convinced that her cat had AIDS." The woman pre-

vailed upon researchers to test her theory, and in 1987 U.C. Davis virologist Neil Pedersen isolated the FIV virus.

"The virus has probably been here forever," Gorczyca notes, "but was only discovered because of our awareness and enlightenment about AIDS."

### Don't Call It AIDS

But while FIV is analogous to AIDS in that both are "retroviruses" that cause the immune system to deteriorate, Gorczyca hastens to add that FIV is not AIDS, and should not be confused with AIDS in conversation.

"It's important that people not call it AIDS," Gorczyca explains, "because the label really scares people." Gorczyca says there were some Parisian cat owners who, several years ago, "threw their cats out of windows" when newspaper headlines blared, "Cats Can Get AIDS, Too!"

The relationship between FIV and the human AIDS virus is a matter of special

Continued on Page 9



Alison Glazier's cat Dennis rarely gets a glimpse of the great outdoors these days, now that he's been diagnosed with the feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV). PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP



# LETTERS 29¢

## Boy, Are They Strict

Editor:

As an 11-year resident of this neighborhood (18 years in San Francisco), I find that I must write to you to report an egregious situation.

We all know how difficult it is to find parking in the neighborhood. This is especially true around the 24th, 18th, and Castro Street shopping areas. I often use my motorcycle to alleviate the problem. However, three times in the last two months I've received unwarranted, harassment-type parking citations.

For example, I got one for having the rear tire of my motorcycle touching the wide white stripe at the edge of a bus zone at 24th and Castro. I was not blocking the bus zone at all. A malicious meter person, I concluded.

Two weeks later, while standing (blinkers flashing) in front of a fire hydrant at 24th and Noe, I stopped to pick up a parcel. In the three odd minutes I was gone from the vehicle, you guessed it, another ticket. The meter madman appeared out of nowhere. Since I'm sure others stop momentarily at this spot, it's probably easy money for the meter creeps. I protested loudly and cursed him soundly—all music to his ears.

Finally last week, while stopping to pick up coffee at 6:10 a.m. at the donut shop at 18th and Castro, I got another ticket for no parking due to street sweeping. What launched my verbal assault this time was the fact that several three-wheelers were hanging (lurking) about the intersection, and rather than ask me to move on as the sweeper was coming, they waited until I walked into the donut shop. Then I was ticketed. More cursing, more music. It seems that this just wasn't my day.

I shouldn't have said finally to begin

the last paragraph. There's still tomorrow. I had one ticket dismissed and the other reduced when I protested the first two at traffic court on Bryant Street. When I take the time to protest this recent citizen-harassing citation, I will tell the judge that it's indignities like this that make me want to move away from San Francisco. As a fairly long-time resident and lover of the city, these feelings sadden me.

John Sullivan  
Douglass Street

## Neighborhood Party a Blast

Editor:

Thank you, thank you, thank you to the Upper Noe Neighbors for sponsoring and organizing the community party this beautiful Sunday afternoon [May 19 at Upper Noe Recreation Center on Day Street]. The booths of crafts, food, and other wares were delightful, Mazook was a superb host, the performers were lots of fun, and the surprise appearance by Bobby McFerrin should make those who missed the party feel just bad enough to show up for the next one.

Alexander Clemens  
30th Street

## Join East & West's Litterati

Dear neighbors:

The East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club is working with other neighborhood organizations to encourage all residents to help in the cleanup of Noe Valley. We are trying a block captain strategy, whereby neighborhood volunteers fight litter where it hurts most—right in front of their homes.

With the help of the city, the club is providing gloves, bags, vests, and promotional materials, while the volunteer supplies the labor. To further encourage



Residents Chris and Deborah Stuart said some of the contents of their flat at 1125 Noe St. were spared, thanks to the quick and careful work of the San Francisco Fire Department.

PHOTO BY GEORGE MELNIKOFF

## Noe Street Fire

Continued from Page 1

all they could. The entire apartment is black, but we're hoping the furniture can be cleaned. We lost a rug, a loveseat, some quilts and blankets, our clothes, and some sentimental items. But mostly we lost baby things."

The Stuarts, who are temporarily staying with friends, had lived at the Noe Street residence for a year and a half. Chris, a self-employed plumber, and Deborah, a former carpenter now employed at T. Marasco's wine store, expressed their thanks to "our neighbors and friends of Noe Valley, for their friendship and compassion."

participation in the program, the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association, along with an individual local merchant, have graciously contributed a \$45 gift certificate, which will be given

"People have been incredible," said Deborah, "offering us clothes, places to stay, and food. And the American Red Cross was wonderful, too. They gave us a gift certificate to Ross' to replace our clothes, and money for groceries for the week."

"It's been like the Farm Age," observed Chris. "It's astronomical, the response we've gotten from the community. Just fantastic."

On June 2, a benefit barbecue and raffle was held at the Dubliner bar on 24th Street for the Stuarts and their baby-to-be (due July 20, "but my mother was a month early"). Anyone who did not make it to the benefit but who would like to send a contribution should call the Dubliner, at 826-2279. □

away to lucky volunteers in a once-a-month lottery.

We already have a dozen people who are picking up litter on their blocks at least twice a week. Please join us and do something that has a direct and immediate payoff—a cleaner Noe Valley. And if you cannot do a whole block, please do a little daily picking-up in front of your own house. Every bit helps.

For more information, give me a call at 821-2468.

Dave Simon  
Duncan Street

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## Recent Rash Of Robberies

By Steve Steinberg

Local merchants already nervous about the number of holdups in Noe Valley found little reassurance in the string of four robberies that took place in the neighborhood during March and April.

Store owners can rest a little easier, however, knowing that police believe they have arrested suspects in two of the four cases. One of the suspects is thought by police to have committed a previous robbery against a neighborhood video store.

The first holdup in the current round occurred during the evening of March 30 at Bakers of Paris on 24th Street near Noe. Store clerk Valerie Loomis was alone in the front of the store—which had sold out of just about everything since it was near closing time—when a man entered the shop. Loomis said she felt the stranger had been watching the store, so she was not completely surprised when he came behind the counter and flashed a gun.

Loomis said he told her to take the cash from the register and put it into a plastic bag he carried with him. Loomis complied, handing over about \$200. The robber then demanded that Loomis open the safe, but the clerk said she had no key. According to Loomis, the man briefly tried to take the safe with him, but gave up and left.

As he exited, the thief warned Loomis not to call the police or tell anyone about the robbery for 10 minutes. He said a friend watching from across the street would know if she failed to follow his instructions. Loomis said she waited the 10 minutes before notifying the bakery's assistant manager, who was in the rear of the shop.

San Francisco police believe that the man who held up Bakers of Paris is 41-year-old Jerry Hull of Los Banos, Calif. Hull is presently in the San Mateo County Jail following his arrest on April 10 at a Daly City bowling alley. Police were given an anonymous tip as to his whereabouts, according to Inspector Michael Maloney of the San Francisco Police Department's robbery detail.

Maloney said that Hull, who is an escaped convict from Soledad State Prison, may be responsible for at least 23 armed robberies of stores and businesses in San Francisco, as well as several others in San Mateo County. Hull may be the bandit, police think, who held up Video Wave, 1431A Castro St., on Feb. 27. Hull is currently charged with 12 counts of armed robbery and one count of false imprisonment.

According to Maloney, Hull usually worked with one or two accomplices, who generally served as lookouts. Hull and his cohorts were known to police as the "bag bandits," Maloney said, because they put their stolen cash into plastic bags, which they'd brought with them to the robberies.

Police have not yet caught Hull's accomplices, one of whom was consistently seen at the scene of many of the holdups. He is described as a tall 50-year-old male, with a "wrinkled" face.

Another, unrelated armed robbery took place in Noe Valley the evening of April 17, when a lone male in his 30s held up Auntie Pasta on Diamond Street near 24th. Julie Kramer, the manager of the store, said the thief got away with \$200.

Kramer, who was not present when the robbery occurred, said the man at first refused to believe the store clerk, who had insisted that \$200 was all the money in the take-out. But the thief fled, Kramer said, when he thought a customer was coming into the shop.

Kramer also said the clerk quit soon after, partly because of the emotional stress of the holdup.

As of mid-May, San Francisco robbery inspectors had no leads in the case, but said the bandit had not committed another

## Are Store Thefts on the Increase in the Valley?

By Steve Steinberg

Are commercial robberies on the rise in Noe Valley? The evidence is inconclusive. Nevertheless, many local merchants have the perception that robbers are stalking their stores.

"It must be true," says Kay Lamming, manager of Cotton Basics at 24th and Castro streets. "I keep reading or hearing about it."

"It seems like there are more robberies," agrees local merchant Joy McLead, who hasn't been robbed yet, but doesn't want the name of her business published for fear of attracting crooks. "But I don't know if it's any different from before," she adds. "It's just what I read in the *Noe Valley Voice*."

On the other hand, no one can deny that thieves have pulled off some frightening and brazen holdups in recent months (see story at left). And that fact has merchants worried.

"It's kind of scary," says Marjory Panetti, owner of Panetti's gift store at 3888 24th St.

"There's this impression that this is laid-back Noe Valley, and we're easy targets," notes Patti Wood, owner of the Wooden Heel, 3943 24th St.

Some merchants are resigned to the inevitability of being held up. "There's

nothing we can do," says Julie Kramer, manager of Auntie Pasta at 710 Diamond St.—a store that was robbed in April.

Noe Valley beat cop Lois Perillo, who patrols 24th Street on a regular basis, says that "statistically" there has been an increase in business robberies in the past six months, with an average of two occurring per month. However, Perillo does "not see that increase as a lasting trend."

The neighborhood officer notes that most commercial robberies, with the exception of bank robberies, are not planned far in advance, but are instead "opportunistic, with robbers deciding that a particular business is the best target of the moment." Consequently, thieves will gravitate from area to area, looking for the easiest victims.

In her opinion, would-be thieves may see Noe Valley as a "sleeping little community, which appears to have its guard down." That, Perillo insists, is a major misconception on the robbers' part, since merchants have in many ways banded together to combat crime. The 24th Street commercial community now has a merchants hotline, "panic-button" alarms to police, electronic sensors, and other "warning devices."

One store owner, Alexander Gardener of Video Wave, 1431A Castro St., is promoting the idea of hiring private security guards to protect local stores. Gar-

dener says some merchants have shown interest, but so far his plan has stalled over ways to finance it.

Even though the rate may have gone up slightly, Perillo emphasizes that the number of store robberies in Noe Valley is "really low," compared to other areas in the city. She also points out that personal robberies—such as muggings and purse snatchings—actually outnumber commercial assaults in the neighborhood.

Shoplifting is also a continuing problem for local merchants, she said, with three arrests made in April. The incidence of shoplifting is higher than that figure would indicate, Perillo added, because there are those merchants who manage to chase the thieves down and recover their merchandise, but then choose not to inform police.

But many merchants try to make things as difficult as possible for shoplifters and other thieves—by posting descriptions in their store windows, and by immediately activating the merchants hotline when an incident occurs.

Perillo recommends that merchants and residents alike call the police (553-0123 or 911, if a robbery or assault is in progress) or her office at 647-2767.

Or, if you see her patrolling 24th Street on her bike, "shout a little louder," Perillo says, and she'll do her best to respond. □

der robbery, as far as they knew.

Little information was provided by bank officials concerning the April 29 robbery of the Noe Valley branch of the Bank of America at 24th and Castro streets. Officers at Bank of America said it was bank policy not to divulge any details of a robbery.

But according to Inspector Tom Vigo of the Police Department's robbery division, a man entered the bank, "simulated" to a teller that he had a gun, and demanded money. Vigo said the individual got away with "not a great amount of cash."

The robber was arrested later that day in the Potrero Hill neighborhood by plainclothes officers from the Mission Police Station. Vigo said the bank robber, identified as Patrick Needham, 29, of San Francisco, was spotted based on a description given by the bank.

Perhaps not as scary as a holdup involving a gun, but just as shocking in terms of its brazenness, was the April 19 robbery at Joshua Simon, the clothing store on 24th Street near Sanchez.

Manager Barbara Jonesi said that around 6:30 p.m., a young man, 18 to 19 years old, entered the store and at random grabbed eight or 10 pieces of cloth-

ing. According to Jonesi, the thief then ran out of the shop with store staff right behind him. "We were seconds away from grabbing away the merchandise," Jonesi said. But the robber outran everyone and leaped into a waiting getaway car.

Jonesi said she copied down the license plate number of the fleeing car. But San Francisco Police fraud inspector Earl Wismer said that apparently the number was recorded incorrectly and could not be used to identify the getaway vehicle. Police have no other leads, he said.

Wismer also noted that while this type of crime does happen fairly frequently, it does not represent a trend. He advised store owners to keep display merchandise away from shop entrances.

According to Jonesi, the total value of the clothing stolen from Joshua Simon was in the \$400 range. However, Jonesi said that she did not think the items of clothing had "that much street value," since they were not highly desirable pieces, such as silk or leather.

Still, the experience of having something taken from you by force definitely had an impact on the store personnel. "There's nothing you can do with something like this," said a frustrated Jonesi. "He was in the store 10 seconds and then he was gone." □



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# Neighbors Dispute 'Mean Streets' Label

By Steve Steinberg

Several neighborhood residents have complained that a story in last month's *Voice* ("Is Upper Noe on the Road to 'Mean Streets'?") falsely portrayed the area around 30th and Church—and specifically the park and recreation center at Day and Sanchez—as a hotbed of drinking, drugs, and teenage mayhem. They say in particular that accounts of teenage drinking and intimidation of neighbors have been overblown.

"The teenagers in the park are decent," says Teri Cahill, a mother of three who has lived in the area 35 of her 38 years. "They're polite and are not harassing children." Cahill added that people automatically assume something is going on whenever three or more teenagers congregate. "Teenagers frighten people," she said.

Another resident, Ana Curtain, who lives near Church and Army streets, says that neither she nor her two children, ages 5 and 7, feel threatened at the park. "I feel pretty safe," she insisted.

Curtain noted that groups of teenagers had always hung out in or near the park, and that in many instances the adolescents were "just being teenagers." Curtain theorizes that a number of the teens may not come from good homes and "need the park" as much as adults and children.

Although some local merchants have complained that teenage loitering has hurt business, one store owner who is not bothered is Jack Louh of St. Paul's Market, at 29th and Sanchez.

Louh says the neighborhood teens, whom he calls "my kids," always "watch out for me." His son Alex notes that he grew up with many of the kids, and knows personally the regulars who hang out near the store. The Louhs acknowledge, however, that problems may occasionally arise when teens from other areas come around.

The Upper Noe Recreation Center and its staff won a lot of praise from neighbors for the number and quality of programs offered—from tiny tots and kids' gym, to sports and senior activities. But Cahill warned that "bad press" about the park could keep people away and cause cuts in programs. She said that since publication of last month's story, some parents had questioned whether it was safe to bring their kids to the park.

"It's demoralizing to see another negative focus," Cahill said, noting that the park already faced the prospect of losing

its popular long-time director, Marcus Steinback.

Upper Noe Assistant Director Christine Borg agreed that some frequenters of the park had become anxious after reading the *Voice* story. Borg reassured them, pointing out that teenagers were "not having a negative effect" on the park's programming and, in her view, were not disrespectful toward staff and visitors. Borg also said that the teens who used the facility generally corrected their behavior if the staff told them that what they were doing was inappropriate. "They're going to be good young adults and citizens," she maintains.

Borg, who has been a director at Upper Noe for 18 years, confirmed, however, that the park "had always been a beer-drinking park." She said that a while back, "top administrators" in the city's Recreation and Park Department had authorized the use of the so-called "beer garden," a fenced-off space near the corner of Sanchez and 30th streets, as a "designated area" for adults-only drinking. The area was originally established as a means of keeping alcohol out of the rest of the park, she said. But after neighbors complained several months ago, police cracked down on drinking in the park, and the "beer garden" was closed, Borg said. "This park has been reclaimed by the neighborhood," she added.

One neighborhood resident who is not happy about the closure of the "beer garden" is Jim Eggleton, 41. Eggleton said he was a member of the group who used to hang out in the "designated area," and that he'd been having a beer or two in the park after work or after a softball game for the past 20 years. Although he knew that drinking in the park was illegal, Eggleton said, he felt that he and his drinking buddies "were not really doing anything wrong."

Eggleton also verified the existence of a gentleman's agreement between park officials and locals, allowing them access to the "beer garden" to keep drinking "out of sight" of children. He said that he and his drinking partners had honored their part of the arrangement and also kept the fenced-in area spotless, but that in recent years they'd been "harassed" by police and blamed for teenage carousing.

Now that they have been driven out of the "beer garden," he and his friends are still drinking in the park but are doing it out in the open, Eggleton said.

In any case, with a new beat cop on the job this month (see story starting page 1), residents of Upper Noe Valley can look forward to their "mean streets" getting a little kinder in coming months.

New cop-on-the-block Steve Ratto says he expects to make neighbors' concerns over juvenile mischief a top priority. "It will take a little doing," Ratto said. "But my presence is going to change things." □



Community Police Officer Steve Ratto, shown here with son Michael, will be keeping the peace in Upper Noe Valley, starting this month. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD

## Meet Upper Noe's New Beat Cop

Continued from Page 1

reports that in recent months the Ingleside Station has received numerous calls from Upper Noe Valley residents regarding teen drinking and drug use, as well as car thefts and break-ins. Quite a few of the calls, he notes, concerned after-hours drinking by teenagers at both the Upper Noe Park at Day and Sanchez and Douglass Park at Douglass and 26th streets.

Getting the juvenile situation under control could take a great deal of his time, he says. "I'm going to be quite busy, I can tell you that."

In keeping tabs on local kids, Ratto says he will have the help of at least two other beat cops in neighboring districts. But he also plans to look into the city's current curfew regulations, to see if they can be used to get teenagers off the street corners and out of the parks at night.

"If you can curb [the loitering], your major problem is taken care of," he said. He stressed, however, that the difficulties with teenagers are "not as bad as everyone thinks."

A San Francisco native, Ratto, 32, received all his formal education in the

city. He attended Commodore Sloat and Parkside schools, Aptos Middle School, and graduated from Lincoln High School. He also attended San Francisco City College. He now lives with his wife and three children, ages 2, 6, and 8, in San Mateo.

Ratto began his police career as a general patrol officer, working the Bernal Heights and Ocean View areas. He then switched to the narcotics division, where he worked under cover. The narcotics detail proved different and enjoyable for a time, Ratto said. But after seeing "the system recycle the same people back onto the street over and over again," he began to burn out. Leaving narcotics, he returned to patrolling. It was then that the opportunity with CPOP presented itself, and Ratto signed on.

Ratto would have begun his new beat before June, he says, but a broken thumb, injured while grappling with a suspect, has confined him to light duty. Now, with his injury behind him, Steve Ratto plans to have a major impact on the Upper Noe Valley neighborhood.

To get in touch with Officer Ratto, call the Ingleside CPOP at 333-3433. □

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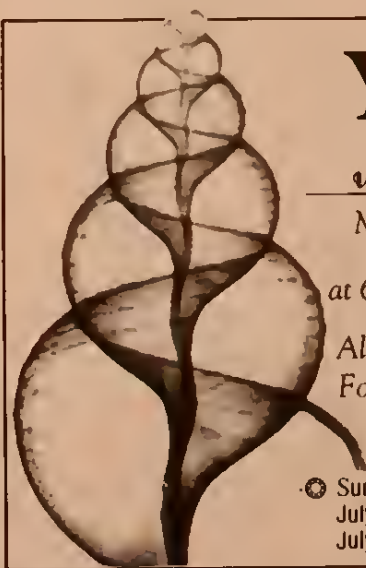
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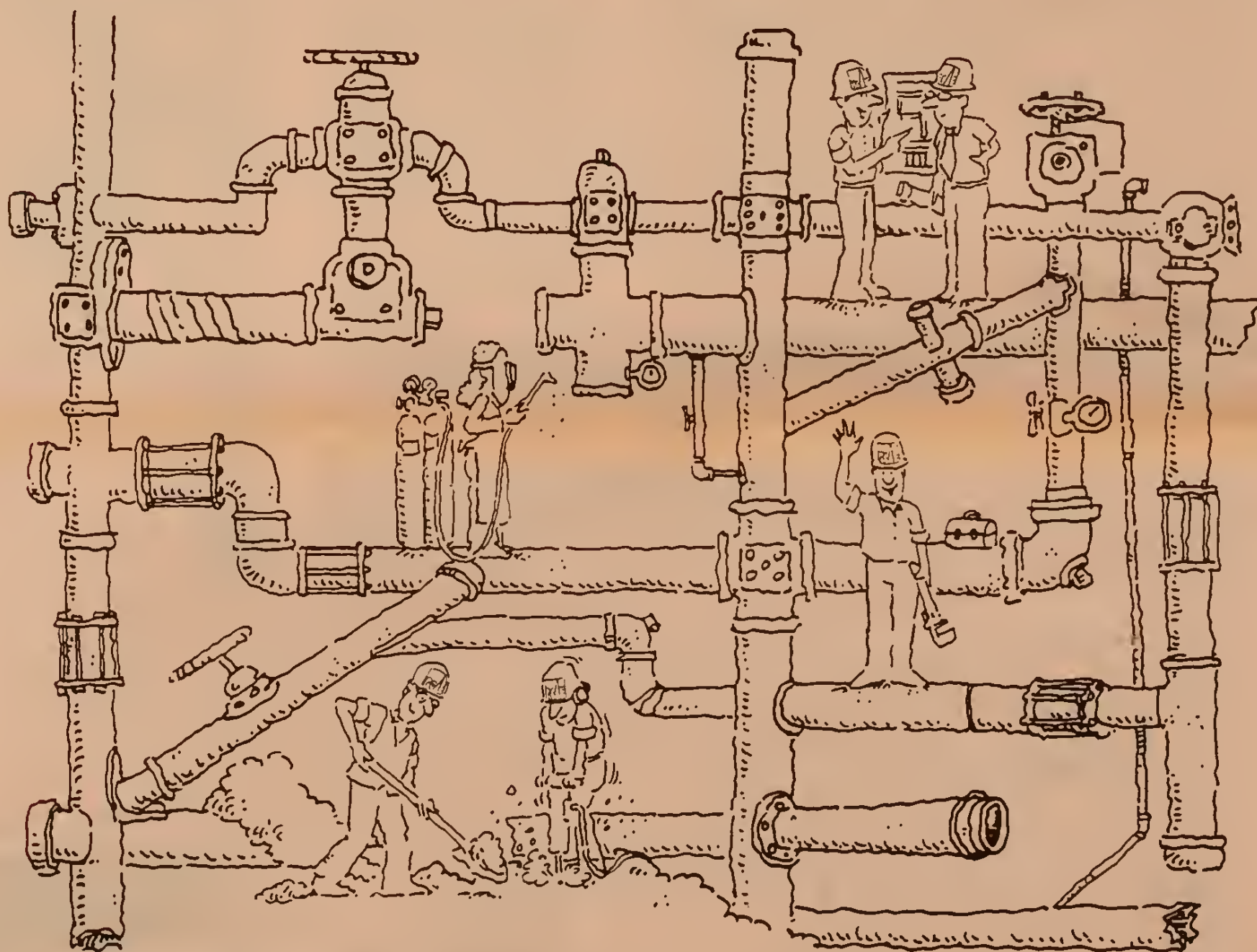
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# Watching *The Simpsons* Is a Rat and Raven Ritual

By Margo Weisz

For the past nine months, Thursday night at the Rat and Raven bar on 24th Street has become the unofficial "Simpsons' Happy Hour."

When *The Simpsons*, an animated television sitcom, comes on at 8 p.m., a packed crowd is waiting to watch the show—which features a generic American family in a generic American town, and could be described as every American's embarrassing home movie turned cartoon caricature.

During the half-hour that the show airs, beers go on sale for the special rate of \$2. But, says Rat and Raven bartender "Sparky," "I think people come for the show regardless of the price of beer."

Although the bar is jammed (with mostly "twenty-somethings"), extraneous conversation is held to an all-time pub low, and even pool players must refrain from nudging *Simpsons* fans.

"It's modern-day realism," says 23-year-old patron Jeff Salgado, "and not like *The Cosby Show*, which highlights the perfect family. The Simpsons' family is real."

The weekly series makes fun of human nature and common foibles, but in an endearing way, and episodes range from husband Homer losing his job at the nuclear power plant, to wife Marge being tempted by the charms of a lascivious suitor, to youngsters Lisa and Bart becoming disenchanted with their fraudulent childhood hero, Crusty the Clown.



Matthew Fass (shown joshing with friend Lisa Conrad) was selected the best Bart Simpson look-alike on a recent Thursday evening at the Rat and Raven.



Have a beer, not a cow! Fans of *The Simpsons* watch their favorite animated sit-com at the Rat and Raven bar on 24th Street. PHOTOS BY BEVERLY THARP

Lisa Conrad, 27, says she is attracted to *The Simpsons* because "it's fast-paced and extremely referential of pop culture and high culture coming together... like Lisa is always quoting poetry and enlightening Bart."

Thirty-year-old Curt Hall enjoys the show for its offbeat, on-target humor. "I like the girl that plays the sax [Lisa], and the guy who says to her, 'The purpose of playing the blues isn't to make you feel good, but to make other people feel bad.'"

When asked why Noe Valley locals come to watch the show at the Rat and Raven rather than couch-potatoeing it at home, Lissie Fein, 23, says, "Other people's laughter is infectious, and it's neat that a half-hour animated show gets so much adult attention. Here they have beer specials, it saves electricity, and it's fun watching people's reactions. It's great how the place is so quiet during the show and livens up during commercials. This is the most crowded this place gets."

Noe Valley residents Danny Dellalana, Boh Gripshum, and Gunther Rohrer, all in their 20s, say Thursday nights at "the Rat" are considered "mandatory atten-

dance." The appeal is "good beer, good people, good atmosphere—real toney," sums up Gripshum.

On a recent Thursday evening, Mathew Fass, 28, was voted the best Bart Simpson look-alike in an informal poll. His response to the honor? "I really don't think I look like Bart, but I'm not insulted. Bart is a real cool dude."

Even though it was Fass' first Thursday at the Rat (he'd heard about the ritual from a friend), he declares, "I'll absolutely come back!"

In sleepy Noe Valley, "it's a perfect Thursday night." □

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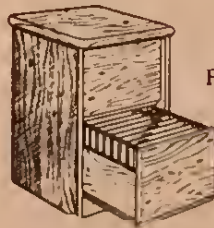
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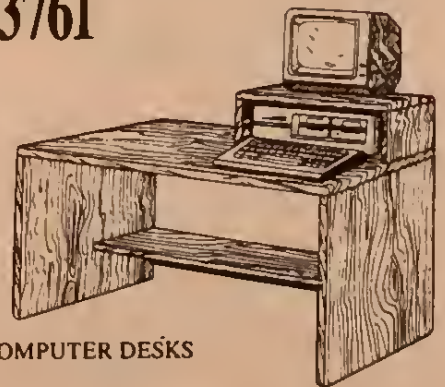
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# A Cat's Way

A Children's Story by Alice Rogoff

We are moving, I thought happily — myself, my Mom, and Camomile, our cat. We were going to a neighborhood in San Francisco that had hills and valleys. We would live in one of the valleys, kind of like Switzerland.

We moved into Noe Valley with all our boxes and rugs, Camomile and me, eleven years old, Talia Marie.

Mom has her own accounting business. Sometimes she works at home, and sometimes she goes out to different places. She likes to work for artists, like the ballet school on Market Street. She's an artist, too, as my mom draws pictures and writes poetry in her spare time. So, not only did we have boxes and boxes of stuff, we had Mom's papers and notebooks, too.

"When all this gets put away," Mom said, "we're going to have a party."

It took a while, but one day, each of our six rooms started to look like a room for certain things. Our cat in the meantime could be found in one box or another, or back on the back porch and staircase. This apartment, on the second floor, was twice as big as our last place.

One room was for Mom's office, another was for me. Camomile would like her bed (once we found it in the right box), I thought, and our pillows with the Turkish embroidery (once we found them).

Finally, everything got put away, and our party was really going to happen.

Mom put up a mirror in my room, and in the mirror I could see my new pink dress and pretty new socks, with my blond hair and bangs.



PHOTO BY JOEL ABRAMSON

Mom opened the window in the living room that faced the busy street under us, letting in the cool night air. Camomile stayed in the kitchen.

The new apartment seemed so big. I stepped through all the people bigger than I. They were a strange collection, from all the different places that Mom worked for—the ballet school, a bank, a chiropractor's office. When the party was over and all the people clattered downstairs, Mom left the window open and we happily fell asleep in our new home.

"That was some party," Mom said over our morning breakfast.

"Sure was," I said, but when I turned to look for Camomile I knew something was wrong. She must have gone out back, we thought. But when she didn't return by dinner time, or the next day by dinner time, we knew that something

was really wrong.

"The window," Mom said. "Maybe she jumped out the window."

Our apartment was a whole story off the ground. Maybe Cam was hiding or away, but maybe Cam had died in the fall. "Cam, Cam," we called through the apartment that had had our housewarming party but that now did not seem like our home at all.

Mom and I sat at the kitchen table to make a flyer about Cam. Mom got out her inks and drew a picture of Cam, showing her yellow, white, orange, and black flecks.

"She'll probably come back tomorrow," said Mom.

Then we wrote the flyer together:

*Our cat has gone for a walk—  
Could you care, and if you see her,  
Please, we'd like to talk—*

*Her name is Camomile,  
And she is a flower to us.*

Then Mom and I went out to the busy street below. We walked through the valley, along the streets, even through the alleys, and kept looking for Cam, and called out "Cam," as on every pole I held the flyers and Mom taped them.

When we had put up the last one, Mom put her arm around my shoulder. I felt sad and leaned against Mom. It was a week now that Cam was gone.

Three weeks after Cam disappeared, I wondered if she missed her old place, and had tried to go back. Or maybe the party had scared her and she had merely gone away for a while. Lots of cats did this, but three weeks was a long time. If we kept the living room window open, would she come in it, or maybe I would shut it, never to be opened again.

The fourth week of Cam's disappearance, the back door was open—Mom had gone down the back stairs to see our neighbor. Camomile walked in the kitchen door, meowed, and rubbed herself against my leg. The food and water dish were still in the kitchen, and Camomile meowed at a dish.

We never knew where she had been. We were just glad that she cared enough to come back.

"I don't really know why cats do this," Mom said. "Maybe it's something from way back in their pasts in Egypt, or when they were lions. It's just a cat's way," said Mom. □

Joost Avenue resident Alice Rogoff has been published in Catalyst for Youth and the Small Pond Magazine of Literature. She has also written a book of illustrated stories, In Sarah's Garden.



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## Ways to Guard Against FIV

*Continued from Page 1*

interest to Gorczyca, whose PAWS organization was formed to help persons with AIDS take care of their pets.

Gorczyca notes that AIDS researchers are using cats as models, but stresses that FIV is "species-specific"—meaning not transferable to humans or dogs. "It is not possible to catch AIDS from a cat or vice versa," he says with emphasis.

Veterinarian Jack Aldridge, who is chief of staff at the San Francisco S.P.C.A., agrees with Gorczyca that "there is no evidence that [FIV] in a natural situation will grow or reproduce in other species."

But both veterinarians think it might not be a good idea for cat owners who have AIDS to keep an FIV-infected cat, "since the cat may have some other disease," Gorczyca explains. "But if the person is very attached to the pet, we would not necessarily recommend that they get rid of it."

### No Vaccine for FIV

Although researchers are hard at work, Drs. Gorczyca and Aldridge report that no vaccine has yet been developed for FIV. Thus, it is extremely important that cat owners understand how the FIV virus spreads, and how best to keep their animals from contracting it.

"Most of the evidence supports the fact that the virus is spread when cats fight," says Aldridge. Gorczyca concurs, adding, "Casual, non-aggressive contact—such as sharing of food and water bowls and social grooming practices—does not appear to be adequate for transmission." Nor has mating been shown to be a good mode of transmission, he says.

Gorczyca also points out that the virus is "most commonly found in male outdoor cats because they're territorial and fight to protect their territory."

That spells danger in dense urban areas, where according to Aldridge, "cats overlap their territories tremendously." Aldridge explains that a cat's normal territorial radius is 300 yards—"and in a 300-yard radius in Noe Valley, you have a lot of cats."

### Preventing FIV Infection

Since FIV appears to be transmitted by aggressive fighting over turf (and not

by play-fighting between feline roommates, who bite without puncturing the skin), the two vets say the best method for guarding against FIV infection is confinement in the home.

This may be an unpleasant strategy for many cat owners to consider—and one which, in Aldridge's words, "raises the safety versus freedom argument"—but it is the only sure-fire protection for right now.

"They [indoor cats] lead perfectly full lives," says Aldridge, who has five cats at home—including one with FIV—all of whom stay inside.

Alison Glazier agrees, saying, "If I had known 1½ years ago what I know now, I never would have let my cat outside." (Glazier says she does what she can to appease Dennis the Menace's yearning for the outdoors by sitting with him on the porch from time to time.)

Certainly any cat owner trying to decide whether to let kitty roam free should weigh his or her pet's risk of contracting FIV. Aldridge says a recently completed national study found that 2–10 percent of the cats tested were infected with FIV, but he notes that the test "did not use an across-the-board sample," and many of the cats tested were selected because they were sick, or because their owners asked that they be tested.

Gorczyca, meanwhile, cites national studies estimating that 1–3 percent of normal healthy cats, and 10–15 percent of cats with chronic diseases, are infected with FIV.

As far as San Francisco goes, Aldridge says, "We at the S.P.C.A. have tested thousands of cats across the board, and have found the rate to be quite a bit lower" than the national rates referred to above.

But Aldridge cautions that "we seem to be seeing the virus with increasing frequency . . . and researchers say the virus can spread, or will spread, fairly easily."

### Detection, Prognosis and Treatment

Because FIV, like AIDS, is not a disease per se, but rather a condition that promotes disease by impairing the immune system, a variety of symptoms may suggest its presence.

According to Gorczyca, these symp-



*Veterinarian Ken Gorczyca, shown here with his pet Morticia, advises cat owners to be on the lookout for signs of feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV). But he also notes that the disease is not communicable to humans.*

toms include poor coat condition; fevers; anorexia or loss of appetite; evidence of pain when eating due to oral ulcers or gingivitis; recurrent infections of the skin, bladder, and sinuses; persistent diarrhea; neurologic diseases such as seizures; slow progressive weight loss; or severe wasting late in the disease process.

Gorczyca adds that the presence of a puncture wound that won't heal is double cause for alarm since it suggests that the cat has been bitten and that the cat's immune system may be impaired. (It was just such a wound that alarmed Glazier about her cat Dennis.)

Gorczyca urges cat owners who suspect the presence of FIV to have their cats tested by means of a simple, relatively inexpensive blood test that any qualified

*Dennis the Menace, looking pretty chipper in spite of his infection with FIV, is now confined to the interior of Alison Glazier's Noe Valley apartment.*

PHOTOS BY BEVERLY THARP

veterinarian can administer.

If your cat gets a positive diagnosis, it is critically important to protect the animal from infection, says Gorczyca. He recommends that owners of FIV-positive cats keep the lid down on the toilet, since drinking from the toilet "is an ideal method for your pet to acquire some infections."

And, of course, making the cat a homebody, as Aldridge urges, will not only keep him from being exposed to a host of infections, but will stop the spread of the virus to other neighborhood animals.

As for medical treatment, "Unfortunately, there is no amelioration like AZT for cats at this point," Gorczyca says. (AZT has been shown to be toxic to cats.)

### Older and Wiser

"But the good news," Gorczyca adds, "is that FIV is not a quick disease—the cat may survive for many years." Aldridge notes that his FIV-infected kitty has lived with the condition for over four years.

Alison Glazier's cat is also doing well these days, but Dennis the Menace—whose uncanny homing instinct once allowed him to roam from Noe Valley to Glazier's former home in Glen Park—now remains indoors at all times as a safeguard against infection.

For Glazier, who faithfully saw to it that Dennis received regular check-ups and all the standard vaccinations over the years, fate has been unkind. "I was so careful," Glazier says ruefully. "That's what kills me about this." □



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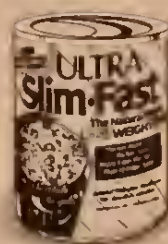


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# Block Party A Blockbuster

By Jeff Kaliss

A fresh spring breeze blew a treasure of neighborhood talent and good will into the sunshine at the "Neighborhood Block Party," held May 19 at the park and recreation center at Day and Sanchez streets.

Hundreds of folks spent their Sunday afternoon discovering the delights of music, dance, food, and crafts, as well as each other.

"I've lived in the neighborhood for 13 years, and I keep thinking I don't know anybody," testified 28th Street resident Anna Hazan at the close of the day. "Then I come to something like this, and I find out I know a lot of people."

The event was organized by Janice Gendreau, co-chair of Upper Noe Neighbors, a residential group that meets every other month at the Upper Noe Recreation Center. The organization came up with the idea for a neighborhood get-together, sort of a mini-street fair, as a means of engendering a positive down-home spirit in Noe Valley's southern steppes.

Gendreau says she chose the recreation



Artist Kit Cameron paints a happy face on Casimira Burya at the Upper Noe fair.

center as the site of the fair—rather than Church or 24th Street—because in the typical street fair, crowds are forced to move and have no place to sit. Early this year, she extended invitations to local performers and merchants to participate.

But she ran into unexpected complications when she discovered that the Neighbors, who charge no membership dues, would have to come up with \$500 for use of the center—plus \$175 for the Health Department—and that merchants would have to fork over 17 percent of their receipts to the city's Recreation and Parks Department.

"That's ridiculous," Gendreau told the city. "I pointed out that these are not



The Fat Chance belly dance troupe helped warm up the crowd at the Upper Noe Neighbors' first Neighborhood Block Party, held last month on the grounds of the park at Day and Sanchez.

PHOTOS BY LORENE WARWICK

traveling caterers who follow around the street fairs. They are merchants... paying rental and business tax, and they were just moving for that one day to the rec center, so they would still have the same overhead. If they had to cut into their gross receipts, they'd have to charge three dollars for a hot dog, and that would be a rip-off to the neighbors. That's not the spirit of the event."

Her appeal convinced an assistant superintendent, who changed the rules, allowing the party to partake of an aromatic barbecue set up by Drewes Market, Chinese food from the Red Pepper, pizza, gyros, and spanakopita from Verona, and other delights from the owner of the Church Street Deli.

The Neighbors also hosted a line-up of neighborhood musicians, including guitarist Alex de Grassi, who brought in some Bolivian pipe players, and jazz drummer Eddie Marshall, whose set was graced by a visit from vocal star Bobby McFerrin. Other acts included the Dana Atherton Jazz Trio and the Derins, a pop and ballad band.

One of the more unusual volunteers was 5-year-old Zachary Rizzoli of Harper Street. "I got a call from his mother," explains Gendreau. "He'd heard about the party and wanted to put on a show about Superman with the kids from the Wind in the Willows childcare center."

Young Rizzoli's opening act was fol-

lowed by Scottish country dancing and Carolina Nericcio's belly dancers, two groups which meet at the Noe Valley



Shielded from the rays of the springtime sun, Jill Rebecca Bloom probed partygoers' psychic dimensions at her booth at Upper Noe's Neighborhood Block Party.

Ministry and include many neighborhood residents in their ranks.

As the crowd reached its peak in mid-afternoon, the tango, rumba, and salsa

were demonstrated by the musical duo Arthur Calandrelli and Elaine Sirois, and the playing fields rocked to the sounds of the all-woman band Venus Envy.

Many of the younger neighbors stopped to have their faces painted by 28th Street artist Kit Cameron. They then scampered through a Moonwalk maze, or wandered over to inspect one of the Fire Department's handsome vehicles, gleaming in the sunshine.

The Police Department was represented by Officer Steve Ratto, soon to be a familiar face in the 30th and Church area (see story on Upper Noe's new beat cop, page 1).

Gendreau says she is grateful for the support the staff of Upper Noe Recreation Center gave the event. In the future,



The neighborhood party May 19 was a hot time for kids such as Daniel Hirsch, who climbed aboard a fire engine in the middle of the baseball field.

she'd like to see the place evolve into "a real community center... for neighbors to just drop in, meet each other, and have a cup of coffee... and maybe develop little programs."

What's more, the party may become an annual event, if financially feasible arrangements can be made with the city.

Meanwhile, the Neighbors invite all of Noe Valley's residents to attend their meetings and join in their discussion of such topics as earthquake preparation, the beautification of open space, and the dangers of abandoned buildings in the area. The next meeting is scheduled for July 18 at the recreation center. □

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# Professional Organizer Offers New Hope for the Messy

By Jeanne Alexander

For the disorganized of the world—or at least of Noe Valley—there's help out there. It's called a "clutterbuster," only it's not for sale at Tuggey's Hardware.

It, or more properly *she* (her name is Veronica Kleinberg), can be found on Elizabeth Street, running her one-woman enterprise, Clutterbusters—a personal organizing and home management service for people in all walks of life-out-of-control.

Kleinberg, 45, is one of a new breed of professional organizers, whose goal, she says, is "to make life easier, so that one's possessions or business operations are a joy instead of a burden." Among the clients in her year-old business are a computer consultant, a psychiatrist, an 80-year-old senior, and the head of a medical records department at a hospital.

Ensclosed in the front room of her Victorian house—where she's lived for over 20 years—Kleinberg explains the workings of this relatively new profession. (The National Association of Professional Organizers, of which she is a member, was founded just four years ago.)

Even though the professional-organizer label has a Financial District ring to it, Kleinberg's informal manner, long chestnut hair, and flowing skirt signal that hers is definitely not a zipped-up, button-down operation.

"I help people get organized so they can have more time, less stress, and some simplified systems in their home or office," she says. "Each client is a different challenge and a different opportunity to find an organizing principle. What is their highest priority? What is the person most bothered by, and how can we break it down into manageable areas?"

In the case of the psychiatrist, who, upset by a theft in her office, had done no billing for months but had continued to see her patients ("She's a very good doctor, but not such a good office person"), Kleinberg first straightened out the billing, then familiarized herself with her client's office style. After that, she says, "We went out together, purchased some office supplies, and set up a workable office."

Before taking on a job, Kleinberg usually makes a site visit to her potential client's home or office. (One job she refused was a reclamation effort for a woman who—in a fit of pique—had sealed all her husband's possessions to the floor with hot glue. "I couldn't get stuck in that problem," said Kleinberg, pun fully intended.)

Once she accepts a client, Kleinberg's operating philosophy is simple: "You have to be on the side of the person you're working for, to help them make the decisions and see what's holding them back.

I don't try to impose my ideas of how things should be. An organizer can't come in and 'white tornado' somebody else's environment, and expect that person to keep it going."

For the most part, the people Kleinberg works with "want to change their environment rather than themselves," taking a practical versus a psychological approach to their inability to get organized.

A psychological perspective, Kleinberg says, may "bring up a lot of emotions," particularly "when you start digging and uncovering what's really behind a person who is addicted to crisis—busy-busy-busy, and running through life with a sort of 911 mentality. There's an adrenalin rush associated with being so busy."

A trained therapist would be better able to help someone handle this kind of addiction, Kleinberg notes, whereas she's there to help out with the "hands-on" situations.

One of her current jobs is with an older client who is "sharp as a tack" but struggling with vision problems and an unsatisfactory hearing aid.

"She needed a person to work with her and also be sympathetic to her situation," Kleinberg says. "She was frustrated because she had a lot of things to handle, and her family wouldn't jump in and rescue her. She couldn't even use her files because the lettering was too small."

For this client, Kleinberg first reorganized the office space and relabeled the file folders with jumbo letters. Now, she maintains the system and performs such duties as handling her client's claims with the IRS, returning packages, and writing letters to newspaper editors. "She reads everything, and I told her it was too bad that she never became a Nader's Raider. She's a real consumer advocate."

Another client sought out Kleinberg's help with managing an enormous collection of clothes that were about to take over her life. The woman had a Victorian house with so few closets and so much to put into them that no armoire could come close to solving the problem. When Kleinberg made her preliminary visit, jackets and skirts, dresses and coats, were piled up in mounds, and it was obvious that "clothes were her great love."

Kleinberg had to resort to large-scale creativity in this case. She appropriated an entire room with a 15-foot ceiling, and converted it into a closet/dressing room, installing rows of clothing racks like those in department stores. After hanging everything up, the client sorted through the collection, weeding out and itemizing clothes that no longer worked and could be given away to charity for a tax deduction.

"The tax deduction opened up another area of the client's business in which she was very disorganized and not keeping



Veronica Kleinberg, standing, earns her livelihood by helping other people, like client deBora Hadeen, organize theirs. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

records," Kleinberg says. "I'm not a tax preparer, but I'm aware of what deductions one can itemize in business, so I hooked her up with a person who could help her. Now her life is working a lot better, and that's what I'm trying to accomplish."

Some of Kleinberg's clients delegate those projects that never seem to get done. She recently created a family photo album, for instance, and assembled a cookbook from recipes that a woman had clipped and saved for several years, but neglected to compile after becoming too busy with a new baby.

But not all professional organizers do such personal tasks. Some specialize in time management, others in paper management, for either small entrepreneurs or corporate America. Kleinberg does a little of everything, charging from \$25 to \$35 an hour for her services.

One technique she uses for managing paper clutter is known in the trade as "TRAFing." The acronym stands for four steps: T for toss it, R for refer to it, A for act on it, and F for file it.

Kleinberg uses the system to deal with bills. Instead of letting them pile up, she slits open each invoice and uses the envelope as a holder, marking the due date and amount owed on the outside. Then she files them chronologically.

"It makes it easy when you sit down to pay some bills. You write checks by date," she explains. The enclosures that frequently piggyback the bills are either tossed or filed to be read later. If she or her client hasn't looked at a filed item after a week, out it goes.

"I don't think there's anything that can't eventually be tossed, unless you're emotionally attached to it," she says, adding that her new line of work is making her more of a minimalist about her own possessions. "It doesn't mean that I have nothing around, but I can let things move through. It's a process of opening up space and allowing new things to come into my life," she says on reflection.

When asked what causes chronic disorganization and/or "the pack-rat syndrome," Kleinberg points to a spectrum

of underlying emotional issues, such as:

- Residual defiance against parental control, dating back to childhood. "I just don't want to because I'm supposed to."
- A lifestyle of so many responsibilities, activities, and problems that there's no time for neatening up.
- The unfettered artist syndrome. Getting it together would hamper creativity and limit free expression.
- Low self-esteem. The person feels that everyone else's problems must be attended to first.
- Fear of success. Movement means change, which is sometimes frightening.

"Clutterbusters sounds like I should represent the epitome of neatness and some concept of perfection, but that's a big mistake," Kleinberg points out. "That's what causes people to procrastinate: if you can't do it perfectly, then don't get involved at all. My job as an advocate is to help people get beyond procrastination and sort of slowly ease them into action."

What tips does Kleinberg have for those untidy souls who would like to try to organize themselves—without joining Messies Anonymous (yes, there is a 12-step program)? She offers four suggestions:

- 1) Take inventory. Write down the areas that need attention, and give them numbers in terms of priority, e.g., 1. Kids' rooms, 2. Closets, 3. Garage, etc.
- 2) Break the project down into manageable increments of time, and set up a schedule, say house-cleaning twice a week, an hour at a time.
- 3) Build in a reward system, such as a movie, a treat (diet permitting), or a visit with a friend—something you can look forward to. Associating a distasteful task with a pleasant aftermath encourages behavioral change.
- 4) Find a means of getting support, someone you can check in with.

"Controlling clutter is like a game," Kleinberg maintains. "People say, 'Oh, isn't this the worst you've ever seen? Can you believe this?' And I say, 'It's not so bad. . . . I've seen worse.' And I have." □



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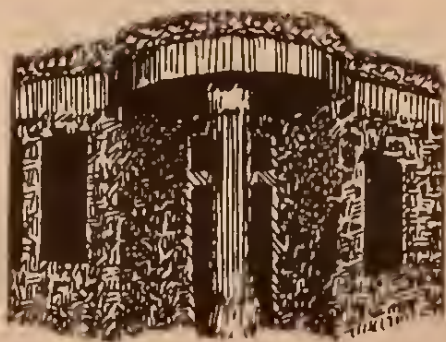
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# Courtyard Cafe Takes a Stand for Stand-up Comedy

By Jeff Kaliss

"Most people learn more from their failures than their successes," Davood Mozafari says with a smile.

Why is this man, the owner of Noe Valley's Courtyard Cafe, smiling? After all, he's facing another fight with neighbors in his attempt to establish a venue for stand-up comedy at his restaurant, located in the busy block of 24th Street between Sanchez and Noe.

But Mozafari's happy that "this time, if they complain about noise, we have something tangible to show them." What he has to display is a relatively clean bill of acoustic health, prepared by acoustic engineers on the evening of May 1, when Mozafari invited neighbors in for a private comedy showcase.

It's been two years since Mozafari made his first try at staging comedy at the Courtyard, an idea engendered by customer Bob Fisher, owner of Clement Street's Holy City Zoo. "I was not well prepared to present something to the Planning Commission," reflects Mozafari about the failure of the earlier attempt.

Jersey Street resident Amalia Attruia-Hartwell, whose bedroom window faces the courtyard (referred to as the Noe Valley Mall) behind Mozafari's storefront, was among the neighbors who rallied in 1989 to block live entertainment.

"More than 60 signatures were obtained," she recalls. "In addition, more than 20 people showed up at the Planning Commission meeting [at City Hall], where the permit was unanimously denied."

As part of his current effort, Mozafari has collected over 300 signatures on a petition of support, two-thirds of them from Noe Valley residents, some of them immediate neighbors. He's gotten an okay from his landlord, Sam Serhed. He's also formed a "volunteer committee" with the help of Kelli Smith, an arts and entertainment promoter who provides secretarial services to the Courtyard Cafe.

"We know that this is a vocal community," says Smith, who lives on 30th Street. "So I talked to people, and took a letter around to neighbors which told them about our idea [for weekend comedy nights], and that we wanted to address their concerns."

But Yvonne Borg, a Jersey Street resident who's also a member of the East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club, wasn't invited to the cavalcade of comedy. Neither she nor the two of her neighbors in strongest opposition to the project were at home on the evening of May 1, so they were forced to depend upon secondhand reports.

Regardless of how many of the neighbors could or would have attended his event, Mozafari notes that "some people made fliers and urged people to call the Police Department to prevent it." Officer Sally DeHaven, in charge of permit operations for the western part of the SFPD's Mission District, confirms that she



**Spring Comes to Corbett Street:** This resident was quick to catch a few rays before the fog crept in on a typical May day in San Francisco. PHOTO BY ED BURYN

phoned the cafe after receiving several telephoned protests. She was then personally invited to attend the event herself.

"I observed no impropriety," reports DeHaven. "He did not violate any permits. . . . It was good, it didn't seem too loud, it seemed like a very nice crowd of low-key people."

DeHaven admits to a growing appreciation of the art of stand-up comedy, which was well represented at the Courtyard by a crew of comics emceed by Terry Sand and featuring Noe Street resident Marga Gomez. Other performers included Carlos Alazraqui, Tom Ammiano, Greg Behrendt, Tony Carmen, Margaret Cho, Wayne Doba, David Feldman, Jim Harris, Micky Joseph, and Andrea Lee.

"That night was a successful night," declares Mozafari. "You know why? Because instead of ending according to schedule, it lasted for an hour more." Throughout the evening, the engineers hired by Mozafari took measurements

both from inside the cafe and from the southeastern corner of the courtyard behind it, reflecting the level of crowd noise and the comedians' amplified voices.

A couple of weeks later, the engineers told Mozafari that his levels were within legal limits, but recommended that he cover an open space at the bottom of his rear door and "patch up some of the cracks" in the portal.

Both Borg and Attruia-Hartwell discount the relevance of such measurements. "We're in a valley," notes the latter, "and what that means is, when somebody coughs in the house across from you, you can hear it."

"Somebody who was there [at the comedy event] said it was extremely hot," adds Borg. "And there's no way they can have all those people in there and they're not going to open the doors."

"The other part of the noise problem is that, when people come out after a performance, there will be street noise

going by everybody's homes," continues Attruia-Hartwell.

"Also, by having more people in the neighborhood, there's going to be more pollution, litter, and crime. . . . They're going to drink beer and wine during the performances, and that will tend to make them rowdy."

But "I'm not offering a product that appeals to that [undesirable] type of customer," counters Mozafari. "I'm not selling hard liquor. I'm not having an outrageously wild type of entertainment."

Aside from comedy, he says he'd like to showcase chamber music and poetry, as well as the already-established art exhibits, on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings from 8 to 11 p.m. He also noted that the "volunteer committee" was doing all the organizing, and that currently he was operating without outside help from producers.

Some residents and merchants fear that nighttime cafe patrons might increase the parking glut, which Attruia-Hartwell notes "has people parking in our driveways out of frustration." Mozafari points out that the size of his audiences would be kept to the cafe's current limit of 49, that he would access the small parking lot across the street next to Uptown News, and that he would expect to draw mainly "immediate neighbors, people who could come here from within walking distance."

Mozafari is attempting to drum up support from his fellow merchants, some of whom believe that live entertainment "would be good for neighborhood business." But just as surely, his opponents will ask to be backed up by neighborhood residential groups.

Both sides on the issue will be summoned to a hearing of the Planning Commission after Mozafari completes his permit application. If the permit is granted by the commission, he will have to apply for a police permit, triggering an investigation by Officer DeHaven.

"We do our own sound measurements," notes DeHaven. "If the neighborhood makes a mass protest, he probably wouldn't get the permit. . . . The nearby neighbors' concerns and feelings determine it."

And feelings run deep for such neighbors as Attruia-Hartwell. "We're zoned for neighborhood services, and this [comedy club idea] is not a neighborhood service," she says. "Should he receive his permit, it would set a precedent."

"I don't want to hurt anybody," insists Mozafari. "Everybody is either my present or a future customer, and no businessman wants to hurt his customers." In fact, he extends "an open, serious invitation to lunch or a treat, to sit and talk."

Officer DeHaven also "appreciates people's input pro and con." She can be reached at Mission Station at 553-1543.

Now it's just a matter of who gets the last laugh. □



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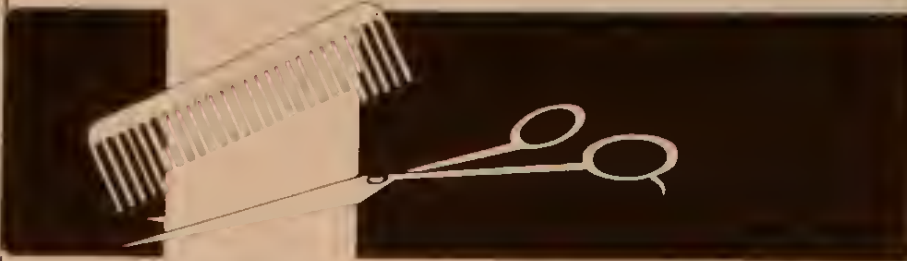
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# Rita Semel— A Woman Determined To Make A Difference

By Laura McKinstry

Rita Semel lives on a quiet, tree-lined stretch of Castro Street that rises above the hustle and bustle of shops and people. But even though her window on San Francisco is one of picturesque tranquility, Semel is a woman who can be counted on not to overlook the city's problems.

For the past 30 years, she has devoted herself to seeking out and correcting the ills of society—by organizing community service programs to advance the cause of civil rights, youth employment, aid to the homeless, and school and housing integration.

Listed in *Who's Who in American Women*, Semel has been the recipient of numerous awards and honors. Last October, she was presented with the Rosa Parks Award, given by Women In Community Service (WICS), a coalition of five national women's groups. The award recognizes the "extraordinary acts of ordinary people" to alleviate human suffering, and was created in honor of Rosa Parks, who in 1955 refused to give up her seat to a white man on a segregated bus in Montgomery, Ala.

Like Parks, Semel has shown a strong determination to achieve social justice throughout her career. In 1963, she organized the San Francisco Conference on Religion, Race, and Social Concerns—a group that was in the forefront of the national civil rights movement and which has battled racial discrimination for over 20 years.

In 1976, she saw local landlords refusing to rent to families with children and, as chair of the board of San Francisco's Family Services Agency, promptly rallied a coalition of community groups to protest. Thus, San Francisco became the first city in the state to pass a law preventing this discriminatory practice.

She's currently a member of the board of both Catholic Charities and Jewish Family and Children's Services of San Francisco.

Indeed, Semel's name on a board of directors often inspires the confidence that opens doors and incites action. And it was just this reputation that spurred Mayor Art Agnos to seek her help in



A champion of social justice for more than three decades, Castro Street resident Rita Semel was the 1990 recipient of the prestigious Rosa Parks Award, honoring "extraordinary acts of ordinary people." PHOTO BY LORENE WARWICK.

tackling the growing problem of homelessness in San Francisco three years ago. Asked to coordinate the participation of the religious community, Semel responded by organizing the Interfaith Emergency Shelter Program.

Launched in 1988, the program provides food and shelter to homeless people during the winter months. Its effectiveness was proven following San Francisco's 1989 earthquake, when more than 90 churches and synagogues were able to accommodate a thousand homeless persons.

"But the result of that," says Semel, "made a number of us feel that while that was a wonderful and necessary Band-Aid, it was only a Band-Aid—and that part of the real problem is that there is a distinct scarcity of low-cost housing in San Francisco. While there have been some attempts to do something about it, there have not been enough."

Since the earthquake, Semel has spent the bulk of her time searching for viable solutions to San Francisco's housing crisis. As a member of the United Way's subcommittee on the homeless, she is trying to help coordinate the efforts of local organizations that are already geared toward promoting low-cost housing.

"A couple of the churches are working with the Red Cross," she explains, "which has a program to prevent evictions. We're asking the people in the congregation to help with support services—anything from driving people, to filling out papers, or tutoring, or providing extra

furniture."

Noting that "empty land is at a premium," Semel says she also hopes to work with Habitat for Humanity, a non-profit organization that rehabilitates dilapidated buildings by hiring homeless laborers who are eager to acquire a residence.

Semel's own former residence is New York City, where she spent the first 18 years of her life as the daughter of "unusual parents." In a time when women were expected to marry and be supported by their husbands, Semel's parents encouraged her to attend college and work to support herself.

She earned a B.A. from the determinedly women's school of Barnard College, worked through the Great Depression, moved to San Francisco in the early '40s—where her first job was as a "copy boy" on the *San Francisco Chronicle*—and got married and had two children. "I didn't know it, but I was one of the original 'Super Moms,'" she jokes.

After working in journalism and public relations for two decades, Semel took a position with the San Francisco-based Jewish Community Relations Council in 1970, eventually becoming executive director in the late 1980s.

During this time, she developed and hosted a weekly television show, *Mosaic*, which for the past 10 years has explored the moral dimensions of human rights and showcased various community efforts to aid the disadvantaged. Nowa-

days, she is also moderator for the radio talk show *Viewpoint* on KNBR.

*Mosaic*, sponsored by the Interfaith Communications Commission, airs Sunday mornings on KPIX. Semel was the show's only host during its first year, after which the decision was made to share the job with others. Today, each of the three major religious groups—Catholic, Protestant, and Jewish—takes charge of hosting and producing the show four months a year.

"The idea behind the show was that there are a number of issues in which the three religious groups share an interest, and while there are no strict rules that you show all three on every show, that's what actually happens," Semel explains.

Recent topics have included homelessness, religious communities and AIDS, drug and alcohol abuse, and education and training programs for economically disadvantaged youth.

When confronting the issue of homelessness, Semel and her colleagues recognize that at present there's not much light at the end of the tunnel. "The whole situation for me right now is really depressing," she quietly admits.

"I wonder where all the money [in the city budget] has gone. . . . At some point I think people are going to realize that if we want the services, we are going to have to pay for them. We've had this kind of shibboleth that we can't raise taxes. Well, we're going to have to raise taxes in order to meet some of the obligations."

In her view, education is also the key to social change. "I think that for most people, it doesn't affect their lives. There is a lot of fracas at the moment about the people who are being panhandled, and there's no question about the fact that it's not pleasant. . . . But you have to look beyond what the person is, and see what can be done."

She asks us to remember that a homeless person is still "somebody's child, and somebody looked at them when he or she was in the baby buggy and thought, My child can be president of the United States."

Despite the poor outlook, Semel says, she will continue to work diligently to find shelter for those who've slipped through the cracks.

"You have to come to terms with the fact that you aren't going to change the world," she notes. "But you also know that you can make a little bit of difference."

"There is a book called *The Sayings of the Fathers*, and 'the Fathers' refers to the ancient rabbis, and the [saying] that I think about most goes something like this: 'It is not for you to finish the job, nor can you refrain from starting it.'"



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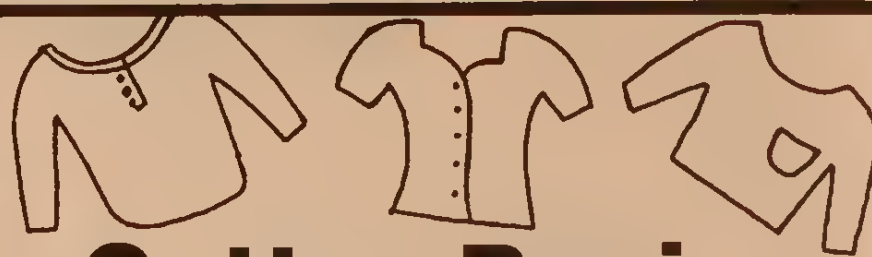


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# Muni Plans To Switch 'Owl' Service On 2 Noe Lines

By Geraldine Lanier

On May 9, the Municipal Railway (Muni) announced proposed changes to the "owl" service on eight public transit routes in San Francisco, including two lines that traverse Noe Valley.

If the changes go through, the late-night service—1 to 5 a.m.—on the J-Church streetcar line, running from 30th and Church to downtown, will be discontinued as of January, 1992.

At the same time, Muni plans to institute owl service on the 24-Divisadero, the Castro Street line that connects Eureka and Noe valleys with Bernal Heights. During the new owl hours, the 24's electric trolleys will operate at 30-minute intervals on the portion of the line that runs from Divisadero and Sutter to Cortland and Bayshore Boulevard.

According to Muni transit planner Duncan Watry, the proposed changes are part of a general overhaul of Muni routes that has been in the works for a decade.

"The owl system has been unchanged for about 30 years," Watry said. "In 1981, the day service routes were restructured



If Muni gets its way, next year the J-Church streetcar line will go to bed at 1 a.m., while the 24-Divisadero picks up the slack. PHOTO BY CHARLES KENNARD.

for more efficient crosstown use. But the night service wasn't done.

"So, these owl service changes will be a completion of the entire restructuring plan, and are intended to provide better route coverage throughout the city."

Watry noted that the late-night service on the J-Church was being cut primarily because its north-south segment has relatively few passengers after midnight. Muni planners believe that owl service on the 24-Divisadero will be a good substitute for the J, and will put buses "where more riders can use them, especially in the Castro area," he said.

But there are some Noe Valley com-

muters who disagree. Twentieth Street resident Erwin Schoenberger says he uses the J-Church owl service on almost a daily basis, and he is not looking forward to switching to the 24.

Besides the inconvenience, his highest concern is personal safety. Schoenberger says. He fears that Muni will extend the 24-Divisadero's nighttime route to Third and Palou streets in Hunter's Point (the end of the line during daytime service), and that the new service will encourage would-be muggers and other vandals to make late-night raids on more upscale neighborhoods like Noe Valley.

Barbara, an Army Street resident who

preferred not to give her last name, is also unhappy about the proposal. She currently works an evening shift and takes the 24-Divisadero line after midnight.

"I feel threatened all the time," Barbara says. She claims that there already are sinister passengers on the 24, and that owl service will only aggravate the situation. "I may have to end up taking a taxi home instead. The ten bucks' charge is worth my safety."

In response, Watry assures local residents that "this owl line will not go to Third and Palou streets." Since he lives at 24th and Mission streets, he says, he's aware of Noe Valley residents' concerns about the rising incidence of crime.

In the latter half of May, Muni conducted four public hearings across the city on the owl proposals. However, the May 18 meeting at James Lick School, 25th and Noe streets, was sparsely attended, partially due to a lack of notice (a week before the event).

The next public hearing is scheduled to take place before the Public Utilities Commission in July. But Watry stresses that residents who are concerned about the J-Church and 24-Divisadero changes should contact him before then. (Watry's phone number is 923-6100, or letters can be sent to his attention at Muni's Service Planning Department, 949 Presidio Ave., San Francisco, CA 94115.)

"I'll accept any comments," he says. "And if there is a great need to discuss these issues further, we may hold another neighborhood meeting before July." □

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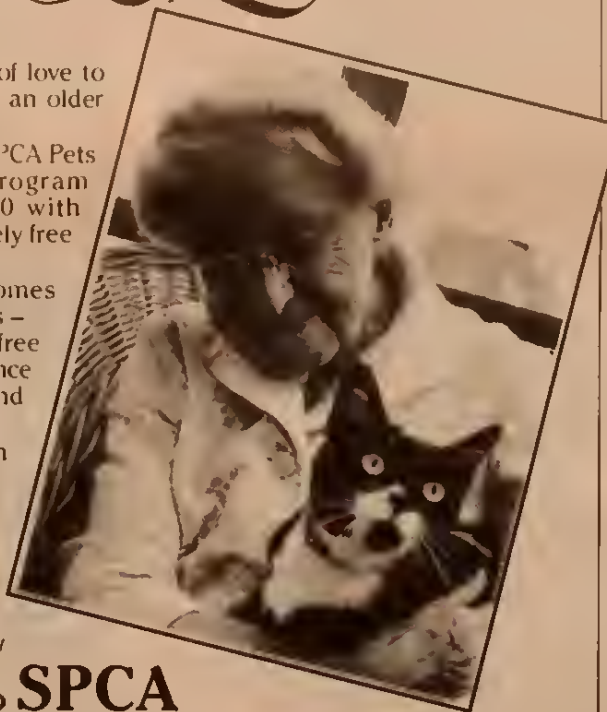
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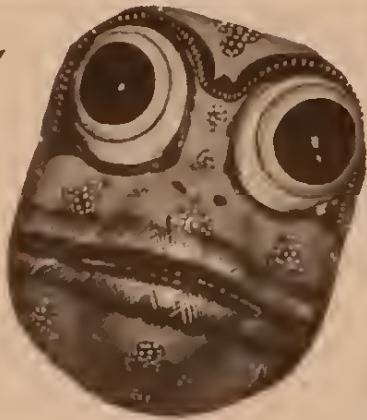
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## Dad's Day

Paternal pride is on parade on the sidewalks and stoops of Noe Valley, reaching a peak on Father's Day, June 16. So Pamela Gerard, who celebrated her first Mother's Day last month, has focused her lens on the male side of parenting. Clockwise from top: Paul Morgan and daughter Pearl post letters at the corner of 24th and Noe streets; Manny Fortes enlists son Michael and daughter Vanessa to fetch flowers for Mom; Ken Ferrigno totes an armful of little Kenny outside Accent on Flowers; Michael Fields cradles a cup of coffee and 4-month-old son Samuel; and Steve Counselman balances Bumba on the banister next to Spinelli's.

*Photos by Pamela Gerard*





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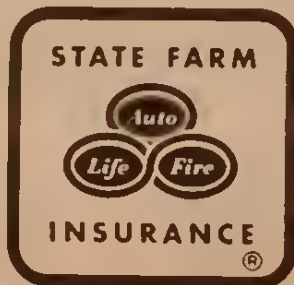
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## The Noe of Yesteryear

Long-time Valley dwellers can wax nostalgic, and newcomers can pore over the local lore on Saturday, June 29, from 1 to 5 p.m., when a neighborhood history celebration, "Noe Valley of the '30s," takes place at the Noe Valley Library.

The event will feature an archival display of old photographs, memorabilia, and yearbooks, as well as activities, refreshments, and entertainment—including the music of zithers and banjos, a video on Noe Valley's past, and a special children's show from 1 to 2 p.m.

Organizer Paul Kantus, president of the East & West of Castro Street Improvement Club (the official guardian of the neighborhood's archives collection), says he is still looking for local newspapers, school pictures, and artifacts from the era. Those who would like to add their time capsules to the display are welcome to give him a call at 647-3753. Kantus promises that all materials will be carefully protected by the library staff.

The party is jointly sponsored by the East & West of Castro Club, Friends of Noe Valley, and the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association. Memorabilia will be on display at the library, 451 Jersey St., throughout the month of June.

## Neighborhood Blood Drive

Where else can you be entertained by belly dancers while donating blood but at the Irwin Memorial Blood Bank's blood drive on June 29, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St.

Besides being jiggled (not in the Biblical sense) by the Fat Chance belly dance troupe, blood donors will be offered a chance to win prizes, such as dance and yoga classes, and massages courtesy of

You can ride the old Castro Street "dinky" cable car down Memory Lane this month as the local library branch hosts a visit to the "Noe Valley of the '30s" June 29. It was a time when two bits got you a taste of turkey and unlimited hands of whist on Hoffman Avenue, dishes were given away between the short subject and the feature film at the Palmer Theatre on 24th Street, and the "good of the child" was taken seriously. Was it really that long ago? This memorabilia comes courtesy of the San Francisco Public Library Archives, the Noe Valley Archives, and neighborhood resident Paul Kantus.

Swami Kriyanada.

Blood drive organizer Ruth Rankin advises healthy, prospective donors to eat a well-balanced meal at least four hours before donating blood. Donors must also be at least 17 years old, weigh over 110 pounds, and present valid identification.

Donating blood requires four steps: registering with the proper I.D., giving a medical history, taking a mini-physical to check temperature, pulse, and hemoglobin, and finally, donating blood—a safe procedure, notes Rankin, in which needles are used only once. "It is impossible," she emphasizes, "to contract any disease."

Donating one pint of blood takes five minutes. "One donation can help as many as three or more hospital patients," says Marlene Kurowski, manager of donor recruitment for Irwin Memorial. Irwin supplies almost all of the blood used in San Francisco hospitals, over half of which comes from blood drives.

According to both Rankin and Kurowski, community blood drives such as the one coming up in Noe Valley are particularly important during the summer months, when most regular corporate and school donors take vacations. Says Rankin, "The idea is to bring the whole process to the neighborhoods, making it easier for people to donate."

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## Merchants' Top Jobs

April ushered in a new cadre of officers for the Noe Valley Merchants and Professionals Association.

Long-time member and local realtor Harry Aleo ascended from vice president to president. Daveine Pasdera, manager of the Noe Valley branch of the Bank of America, took over for Aleo as vice president. Marjory Panetti, owner of Panetti's gift shop on 24th Street, assumed the secretarial post, and Armando Bolanos, of Bolanos Realty, stayed on for a second term as the group's treasurer.

What's on the organization's agenda these days?

According to Aleo, the merchants are breathing new life into ongoing projects—such as spiffing up 24th Street, updating the Noe Valley business directory, planning the association's Thanks-

giving and Christmas promotionals, and monitoring each other's parking meter habits. (The group wants to discourage the practice of "meter-feeding," which reduces parking for shoppers.)

The membership is also engaged in a letter-writing campaign to help raise support for the Noe Valley Ministry's senior lunch program, which is threatened with closure due to city budget cuts.

In addition, new officers have tapped Andrea Rothman, owner of the Pantry, to start organizing this fall's 24th Street sidewalk sale.

The Merchants and Professionals Association currently has 80 members. Officers serve for one year.

## Glen Park Library Cut Back

Despite a two-month letter-writing campaign waged by Glen Park residents, the Glen Park Library, located at 653 Chenery St., has been relegated to a "reading center," effective July 1. This brings the number of branches that have been converted to reading centers, as a result of city budget cuts, to seven.

As a reading center, the library will have a reduced book budget and a smaller reference collection, and its hours will be reduced from 30 to 20 a week. Instead of a librarian who plans special programs and gives book reviews (in addition to answering patrons' questions), the reading center will be staffed by a library page, who checks out books and may or may not be qualified to give out detailed information.

"The special programs will be lost," says Glen Park Librarian Martin Magid, although a children's librarian will still visit the center twice a week to do a reduced children's program.

Continued on Page 25

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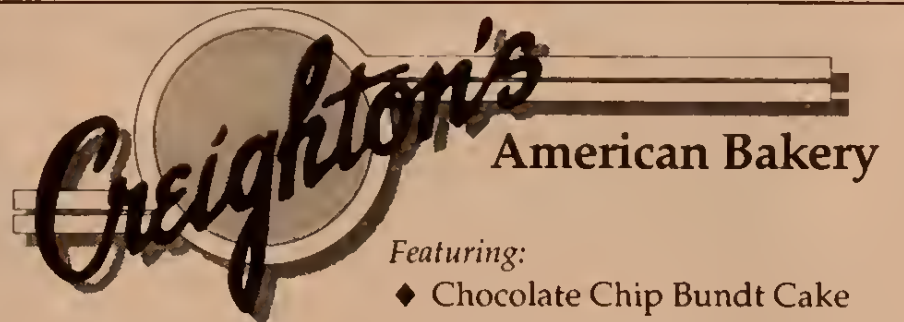
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**EXPIRES 6/30/91**



Continued from Page 23

"We're trying to have the best service possible for the money available," says Magid.

According to Marcia Schneider, community relations librarian for the city, the Glen Park Library was targeted because, relative to other branches, it has less patronage and serves a smaller population. So chances are good that the Noe Valley Library will see some increased usage come July, as Glen Park patrons, in search of a full-service library, leave the Glen and come to the Valley.

For more information, call the Glen Park Library at 337-4740.

### Women's Craft Fair

Applications are being accepted until June 15 from women who want to participate in the 13th annual Women's Building Arts and Crafts Fair, the largest event of its kind in the country.

Held every December at Fort Mason Center, the fair is known for its quality crafts, warm community atmosphere, and dynamic line-up of entertainers from all over the Bay Area.

It focuses on encouraging economic development, especially for artists and craftswomen who have been selling professionally for less than two years.

To get an application, or to find out about a free workshop on displays and marketing, call the Women's Building, at 431-4141.

### Gay Film Festival

The Castro Theatre, at Castro and Market, and the Roxie Cinema, 3117 16th St., will be the sites, from June 21 to 30, of the 15th annual San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.

The festival will feature over 100 film and video works from around the world, including the opening night comedy *My Father Is Coming*, by German director

## SHORT TAKES

Monika Treut. Opening night festivities will also kick off the week-long Lesbian/Gay Freedom Celebration, with a champagne reception at the Castro in honor of festival filmmakers, and a post-premiere gala at the San Francisco Mart.

Other highlights include Jan Oxenberg's *Thank You and Goodnight*, in which the lesbian filmmaker explores the process of her grandmother's death; *Rough Sketch of a Spiral*, the first documentary on gays in Japan; *Via Appia*, a look at AIDS and the street hustlers of Rio de Janeiro; and *Relax*, describing one man's thoughts upon undergoing the HIV test.

For a complete schedule, call 861-5245.

### Summer Music Classes

The Community Music Center, a 70-year-old institution offering music classes for children and adults, is registering new students for its 1991 summer session on Friday, June 28, from 3 to 7 p.m., and on Saturday, June 29, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Registration will take place at two locations, at 544 Capp St. in the Mission, and at 741 30th Ave. in the Richmond District. And those who can't make it on June 28 or 29 will have a second chance, from 3 to 7 p.m. on Friday, July 5, and 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, July 6.

Summer session begins July 8 and runs through Aug. 31. The curriculum includes group classes, music ensembles, and private voice or instrumental instruction. Tuition for all programs is based on a sliding scale. For more information, call 647-6015.

### From Coffee to Compost

Is there another resting place for kitchen and yard scraps, besides your garbage can? The answer is yes, according to the San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners (SLUG).

SLUG recommends that residents save their carrot peels, coffee grinds, and other organic scraps, and recycle them through "composting." Composting turns yard and kitchen wastes into an excellent fertilizer for garden and house plants, and also helps solve San Francisco's mounting garbage crisis. And all it takes is a little chicken wire, or a hucket and some dirt.

To show people how easy it is to compost—and to help them with the how-to's—SLUG offers a free workshop in home-composting. All workshops are held Saturday mornings, from 10 a.m. to noon, in SLUG's Garden for the Environment, at 7th Avenue and Lawton streets.

Upcoming workshops are scheduled for June 8 and 29, and Aug. 24. A workshop in advanced composting will be held on July 20, and a special "earthworm composting" class will be offered on Aug. 3. Call 468-0110 to pre-register.

### Call for Film Entries

Filmmakers take heed—Friday, July 26, is the deadline for submissions of films and videos for the seventh annual Film Arts Festival, the showcase for independent media in the Bay Area. The festival, sponsored by the Film Arts Foundation (FAF), takes place Oct. 30

through Nov. 3, at the Roxie Cinema, 16th and Valencia streets.

Independent films and videos of any length and genre by Northern California artists are eligible. The festival is a non-competitive showcase, and selections are based primarily on thematic programming, with themes evolving from the works submitted.

Highlights from the 1990 festival include the Jon Jost feature *All the Vermeers in New York*, Irving Saraf and Allie Light's film about the San Francisco Opera Chorus (*In the Shadow of the Stars*), and this year's Oscar nominees *Waldo Salt: A Screenwriter's Journey* and *Forever Activists*!

There is no entry fee, and honoraria are paid for all works shown, other than those that have received FAF grants. For information and entry forms, call the Film Arts Foundation at 552-0602.

### Community Cookbook

*The Flavor of Buena Vista* is the name of a new bilingual cookbook, created by the parents and students of Buena Vista School, located at 30th and Noe streets.

The spiral-bound cookbook, complete with illustrations by the students, contains more than 200 recipes—many accompanied by memories or special stories—in both Spanish and English. Because Buena Vista attracts families from a variety of cultural backgrounds, the dishes range from Irish potato cakes and Norwegian pastries, to Salvadoran chiles rellenos and Colombian *sancocho*.

To order a copy of *The Flavor of Buena Vista*, (448 pages, \$10 cover price), send \$13 (includes postage and handling) to Teri Cahill, c/o Buena Vista School, 1670 Noe St., San Francisco, CA 94131, or call 695-5875. Discounts are available with the purchase of multiple copies, and all proceeds go to support the school.

This month's Short Takes were compiled by Julie Underwood, Barbara Austen, and Dan McCarthy. □



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*Elizabethan Splendor: The bounty of a fertile front yard spills over a fence on Elizabeth Street near Castro. PHOTO BY ED BURYN*

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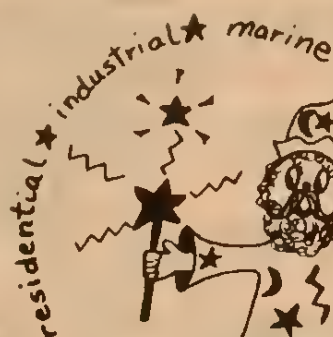
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## Tips on Recycling

# Good Things Come in Small Packaging

By Margo Weisz

The city-run San Francisco Recycling Program, one of the most successful in the country, reaches 80 percent of the city's residents, largely because of an active public education program.

During the month of May, the program's staff spent Saturday mornings at local Safeway stores talking to consumers about the three R's of the '90s—reducing, reusing, and recycling—and how to apply them to the common chore of grocery shopping.

According to San Francisco Recycling Program coordinator Amy Perlmutter, when shopping for groceries or any other goods, it is important for consumers to consider product packaging. Although all non-biodegradable trash is bad for the environment, she notes, "some products are less bad than others," depending on the amount and type of materials used for packaging.

While conducting a recycling tour at the Diamond Heights Safeway, Perlmutter



Lori Osborne (left) gets a lesson in ecologically-sound shopping at the Diamond Heights Safeway, courtesy of S.F. Recycling staffers Brett Carlson, Marcia Hon, and Amy Perlmutter. PHOTO BY BEVERLY THARP

ter and her fellow educators suggested the following tips for ecology-conscious shoppers:

- Stay away from rigid plastics, like toothpaste in a pump. The plastic does not compress and takes up more volume in landfills.
- Buy in bulk, and look for items with contents that are not pre-measured and

individually wrapped. This not only conserves packaging but also saves money.

- Buy milk in the now-available glass bottles. The bottles can be recycled, whereas milk cartons, because of their waxy coating, cannot.
- Buy concentrates. Because they are smaller, they require less packaging, and less fuel when being transported.

- Use an all-purpose cleaner, preferably a concentrate in a cardboard box. One large container creates less garbage than several smaller ones. Also, use organic cleaning products, like lemons, vinegar, and baking soda.

- Look for frugal packaging. Packaging makes up 30 percent of our country's garbage.

- Use refillable or reusable, rather than disposable products (e.g., cloth diapers instead of disposable).

In addition, Perlmutter warns, be aware that although many products boast the recycling logo, there are currently no regulations governing how the logo may be used. Product packaging that displays the logo may only contain a small percentage of recycled material. Or the logo may only mean that the package itself is recyclable. If the percentage of recycled material used is not printed on the package, look for packaging with a gray interior, she says.

San Francisco generates over 960,000 tons of garbage each year, and the San Francisco Recycling Program's goal is to be recycling 32 percent of that by 1992. For more information on the program and how to make the best environmental choices as a consumer, call 554-6193.

And remember: reduce, reuse, and recycle. □



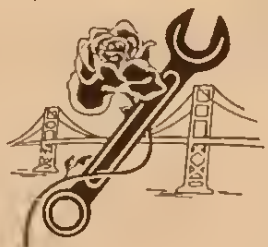
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J.D. Scott-Hoffman purveys a variety of collectable comic books at his United Fantasy Network West on Sanchez Street. PHOTOS BY CHARLES KENNARD

By Karol Barske

**MORE STUFF TO BUY:** A comic book store and a stationery outlet are among the latest additions to local commerce.

**United Fantasy Network West**  
1199 Sanchez St.  
282-1305

Holy comix in Noe Valley, Batman!

## STORE TREK

On May 11, United Fantasy Network West, a comic book store and art gallery, opened at the corner of Sanchez and 25th streets.

Owner J. D. Scott-Hoffman, who goes by the name Dakota, describes his shop as a "place for dreamers of all stripes." He moved to San Francisco to take a break from five years of working in AIDS research at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, he says. Now he is following a second dream: "I've always wanted a place where artists, kids, and others with imagination could come together."

In the comics department, United Fantasy features an assortment of current titles, whose cast of characters includes Spider-Man, X-Men, Maus, Zippy the Pinhead, and Gary Larson's precocious creatures from "The Far Side." The store also stocks a selection of rare and limited-edition comic books, as well as superhero action figures and role-playing games like Dungeons and Dragons.

The artwork on display ranges from painted tee shirts to original metal sculpture and photography. Dakota encourages local artists, especially those just starting out, to bring in and talk about their work.

He adds that United Fantasy—open Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7

p.m., and Sundays, noon to 5 p.m.—is currently sponsoring a "Paint the Pole" contest, to decorate the 12-foot support beam outside the shop's front door. But yikes!—you better hurry—the deadline for entry forms is June 15.

**Tech Stationery**  
4018 24th St.  
285-9743

What's black and white and filled with useful gifts? How 'bout Tech Stationery on 24th Street. With a snappy checkerboard floor and high-tech shelves and lighting, the new shop opened May 15 in the storefront formerly occupied by Everett Shades, on the north side of 24th between Castro and Noe.

Owner Edward Wong says he moved his 2½-year-old enterprise from its old location in the Richmond District (24th Avenue and Clement) because, as a Duncan Street resident, he likes Noe Valley and prefers working close to home. Wong and his brother are also electrical contractors, and they installed the track lighting in the new store.

The merchandise at Tech Stationery runs the gamut from serious executive-organizer datebooks and leather office accessories from Italy and Hong Kong, to cartoon-character pencils, notebooks, and



Edward Wong has relocated his trendy Tech Stationery to 24th Street from its former site in the Richmond District.

erasers for children. The store also sports New Wave office furniture and watches, plus picture frames, greeting cards, stationery, and—what no modern office can do without—Post-it notes.

To check out Tech Stationery, drop by from 10:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday through Friday, or 10 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. □



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Photo by Beverly Tharp



## A Chat with the Class of '91

THE MAZOOKMOBILE made its way to Mission High School, McAteer High School, and James Lick Middle School last month, seeking solutions to all our problems. My immediate problem was parking. The solution: walk.

Anyway, I asked a class of graduating students at each school the following question: "What is the first problem you would solve if you became president of the United States? And how would you solve it?"

The students had 15 minutes to identify the problem and then come up with a solution—in legible writing, please. (And I could read every response, thank you.)

In general, the students were concerned about the homeless, the environment, the economy, drugs, and crime. But above all, at least for the high school kids, their biggest worry was the state of our schools.

Almost half of the 67 seniors in the civics/economics classes taught by Frank Uriarte at Mission and Thomas Heafey at McAteer cited failures in education as the number one problem.

☎ ☎ ☎

"If I became president of the U.S., I would solve the problem of the school system," writes Mission senior Andrew Luong, 18, of the Mission District. "We need more money. There are many ways to get more money for education. First thing is to cut the defense budget. What do we need so many missiles for—so we can blow up the world? Countries like Japan invest their money in education not defense.

"The second thing is to tax the rich. Why does the middle class have to pay about 27 percent income tax and the rich pay only 9.3 percent? Do you want a country where the rich control everything and everyone else becomes their slaves? [The only way to avoid this] is through education."

McAteer senior and Noe Valley resident Angela Sylvan, 18, says the root of

## and now **RUMORS** behind the news for the **BY MAZOOK**



**Flowers' Best Friend:** Balou, an Old English Sheepdog, protects the plants at the French Tulip on 24th Street. Ryan Quinlan, who owns both dog and store, assures customers that Balou won't eat the daisies. PHOTO BY PAMELA GERARD

our current malaise is "the gross misallocation of money in the government." She continues, "So much is spent on war and so little is spent on education. I would transfer a lot of funds from the war budget to the education budget, where it is really needed."

Dung Niu Wong, who comes to Mission High from Hunter's Point, says: "There are many teachers who feel they are being paid too low a salary. [But] many teachers have not learned to teach, so the comfort and enthusiasm is not there. Many students also have not learned how to learn."

In true presidential-campaign fashion, Wong promises, "I would support heavy research in the field of education. I will use whatever resources [are needed] and change the people's learning habits."

☎ ☎ ☎

AFTER EDUCATION, the homelessness issue seemed to disturb our high school seniors most.

"I feel that the money is being red-taped down the line," writes Hayes Valley resident Tito Medina of Mission High. "We can jump into a war as fast as a rabbit, but when it comes to taking care of our domestic problems, like the homeless, it's at the end of our agenda." The solution, says Tito, is to "make sure that the money that is supposed to go to the homeless goes to them."

McAteer student Tony Wong, who lives in the outer Mission, says, "As president, I would first solve the homeless problem, being that it would be so easily resolved but hasn't been. With so much wealth in our country, it's astonishing to still see

people without even the bare necessities sitting on the same block as those who have more [money] than they know what to do with. I believe the answer is in how government spends its funds. Less to the military, more to the people—it's that simple."

☎ ☎ ☎

A BROADER BRUSH was used by those seniors who wanted to assume vast powers.

In the words of 18-year-old Mission student Sandra An, "If I become president, I will first change all the congressmen and select new trustworthy ones. I will [think] differently from Bush's way of thinking. I will first help our own country rather than thinking about other countries."

Mission High's Paul Im wrote that he would tackle "the income tax system. . . . Letting the poor pay more than the rich is really ridiculous. I would honestly feel the same way if I were one of the rich people in the United States."

And then there was the response from Mission's Hoa Thanh Tran, who pleaded, "Well . . . I really don't want to be president because (1) it's impossible because I am Asian, (2) I don't like to lie and cheat on people, (3) I don't like wasting taxpayers' money on expensive aeromilitary trips to Disneyland, (4) anyways, the chances of me becoming president are the same as winning 6-53 Lotto, (5) I'm the type of guy that likes to live in a world of reality, and (6) finally, if I did [become president], I wouldn't trust myself."

My only comment is: Hoa, I think your odds are a little longer than the 6-53 Lotto.

☎ ☎ ☎

THE KIDS AT JAMES LICK had a wider variety of global problems and solutions on their mind. Their teacher, Mike Beltran, is quite proud of this honors social studies class. Mike, by the way, grew up in Noe Valley and graduated from Lick in 1959 and Mission in '63.

Ian Farmer, 14, of Noe Valley wrote, "If I became president, I would immediately address the problem of global warming and the energy crisis. I would

Continued on Page 33

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## The Wedding

It was the spring of 1941 when Leo, my beau of two years, and I began to think seriously about making our relationship permanent. We scoured the city and finally found a suitable ivy-covered cottage in Eureka Valley, near 17th Street on Mars—not the best astrological association for a newly-engaged couple, but the rent, at \$17 a month, was within our means. By June, Leo had landed a steady job in the art department of a printing company that paid a salary of \$25 a week (an adequate wage in those days), and I was doing a little freelance fashion illustration.

We didn't have a bank account or established credit, but I did have a hope chest that my younger brother Ward had made for me in his manual training class at Balboa High School. It had almost nothing in it except three square brocade handwoven tablecloths that my aunt in Finland had sent to my parents. They had never been used because our family tables were oblong in shape, to accommodate all of the family members. So into the hope chest the tablecloths had gone. Since they were the sum of my assets, it was amusing to hear Leo tell friends that he was marrying me for my dowry!

Our original intention was to be married in a simple, quiet ceremony during the Fourth of July weekend, but when Leo broached the subject to my father, everything got out of hand. Because I was the only daughter, and because he loved a party, my father pulled out all the stops. By the time he was finished, our plans for a short, simple ceremony had acquired much grander proportions. We were to have a formal wedding, at the Swedish Ebenezer Lutheran Church (which then stood at the corner of 15th and Dolores streets), followed by a reception with over 150 invited guests.

Since there wasn't much time in which to attend to all of the details, everyone rushed about in preparation for the impending event. For my wedding dress, I dashed down to the Emporium and purchased yards of taffeta, lace, and netting, then hurried

## FLORENCE'S FAMILY ALBUM

Illustrated Reminiscences by Florence Holub

home and got down on my hands and knees to cut out the long flared skirt and a lace bodice to top it. I stitched it together on our foot-treadle Singer sewing machine.

For the veil, I purchased a square of netting, which I trimmed to a large circle that would hang down in folds when anchored to the top of my head by a pearl-studded skull cap. I kept the veil short, with nothing trailing behind or needing to be hand held in order to avoid tripping anyone up (especially the bride). With the addition of a pearl necklace and white shoes, this was a wedding dress I could live with. Not many of us had much money in those days, so the bridesmaids didn't buy new gowns, but instead wore long dresses that they already owned—and they looked lovely.

On the afternoon of the third of July, as my father walked me down the aisle, I realized how solemn and beautiful a church wedding can be—with the uplifting music, the gorgeous flowers (luckily for me, there were some left over from a preceding wedding!), and the ironclad promises we made in front of the altar, not to mention a church full of witnesses.

We were showered with good wishes and rice as we left the church to attend the reception at the Miraloma Improvement Club, which my father had reserved for the occasion. The club stood alone on O'Shaughnessy Boulevard, where there were not yet neighbors to disturb—a perfect place for our party, since it proved to be a lively one. Some of the ladies from the Swede/Finn colony had prepared a feast: Scandinavian open-faced sandwiches, a white tiered wedding cake, and champagne. An orchestra played modern music, as well as rousing Scandinavian dance tunes like the schottische and hambo, which required plenty of dipping and swirling, and were fun to watch even for those who couldn't dance them.

into their business. Now if I were president, the military would always be here guarding the U.S., instead of going out somewhere and playing commando. I'd cut the military budget and use the extra money to feed and house the homeless."

A few Lick students expressed a desire to stop gang violence, crime, and drug abuse. One student even suggested that "I would go to where all of the drug dealers are and have a raid. Then I would get them all and line them up against the wall and shoot them"—a pretty harsh penalty, if you ask me. The student goes on to explain that "some people might say that it is murder, but it really isn't once you see how many people they [the drug dealers] have killed. Then the rest of the drug dealers would stop selling drugs."

☎ ☎ ☎

LISTEN TO WHAT CHILDREN SAY because they are a mirror of ourselves. Even that chilling solution to the drug problem reflects a growing sentiment—manifested in the Gulf War—toward Ramboism and quick justice in America.

I would remind you to reread our Bill of Rights, and don't forget the mouse's tale in Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*:

"Fury said to a mouse, that he met in the house, 'Let us both go to law: I will prosecute you.'

"'Come, I'll take no denial, we must have a trial, for really this morning I've nothing to do.'

"Said the mouse to the cur, 'Such a trial, dear sir, with no jury or judge would be wasting our breath.'

"'I'll be the judge, I'll be jury,' said cunning old Fury. 'I'll try the whole cause and condemn you to death.'"

That's all, you all. And bye kids. □

The high point of the evening occurred when four of my father's Swede/Finn friends escorted him to the center of the floor, whereupon each of them grabbed him by an arm or a leg, and then threw him up into the air, yelling in unison, "Hey!" Each time my father came down, they caught him and tossed him into the air again, with another "Hey!" Up and down he went, thrashing about a bit whenever he reached the highest point, until these strong men became winded.

Leo and I were still laughing at my father's plight when suddenly the same group of men came over to our corner, took my hand, led me to the center of the floor, and sat me down on a chair. Each of them then grasped a leg of the chair, and with a powerful boost and a "Hey!" sent me flying into the air, veil and all. When I descended, they caught me on the seat of the chair. Another "Hey!" and I went sailing up again and again until they tired and returned me to my laughing husband.

Leo's amusement changed to surprise, however, when the men grabbed his arms and whisked him onto the floor for a turn at being tossed and "Heyed!" Neither Leo nor I had seen the tossing ritual before. Apparently it is a rite reserved for special occasions in Swedish-speaking Finland, for I saw my father tossed up in the same way years later, upon the celebration of his 80th birthday in his hometown of Vora.

It was growing late at the reception when a cousin who had a long way to go home whispered in my ear, "Please leave, so we can go home." We told him that he had our permission to go, but that we intended to stay for as long as we were having fun!

I remember dancing with my favorite men—my father and two brothers—whom I would be leaving for the new man in my life. The orchestra played on until late, and every so often my father would go up to the mike and say to the



This portrait of Florence and Leo Holub was taken by photographer-friend Tatsuo Ishimoto a week after their wedding ceremony July 3, 1941.

dancers, "Should I ask them to stay another hour?" The affirmative shouts continued to come back, and so the orchestra played on until long after midnight.

Thus it was already the Fourth of July, 50 years ago, when we newlyweds left the hall on O'Shaughnessy Boulevard and started together on the path of hearts, flowers, and photographs that continues to this day. □

*Editor's Note: This month and next, Florence and Leo Holub will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with an exhibit at Gallery Sanchez, located in the Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. The show, featuring Leo's photographs and Florence's drawings and paintings—created over a span of five decades—will run from June 23 to July 13, with a reception July 7. The Voice staff will be providing some extra-light chairs for hoisting, so "Hey!"—everyone in the neighborhood please come.*

## and now for the RUMORS behind the news

Continued from Page 31

begin by appropriating the funds for several institutes to research alternative fuel sources, and then I would appropriate funds for several other institutes, like NASA, [for] a space platform to analyze the rate of global warming. Then [I'd ask for] much stricter emission standards."

Our number one imperative, says Graham Chong, 13, from Diamond Heights, should be to "try and save the ozone layer from being destroyed. First, I would stop the productions of CFCs, build a lot of trucks that can pick up recyclable materials, and make recycling centers for every large city in the [country]."

Sherwin Lee, 14, from Upper Market agrees: "If I became president, I would first solve the environmental problems of the U.S. by imposing stricter laws on oil tankers and pollution and banning all CFCs and aerosol cans, to protect the ozone from further damage."

For Kateesha James, 14, from the Bayview District, our worst problem is "the continuous use of nuclear energy, because I feel it's not good for the future of ourselves and our children."

"The first problem I would solve," says 13-year-old Rameen Garsey, who lives in Diamond Heights, "is the military's attitude problem. What I mean is how every time there is a conflict between two other countries, such as Kuwait and Iraq, that the military has to go and get

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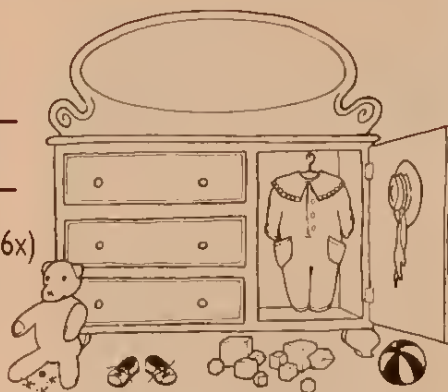
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**Good Karma:** A woman lays on hands under the hood of her car on 23rd Street.

PHOTO BY ED BURYN

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By Jane Underwood

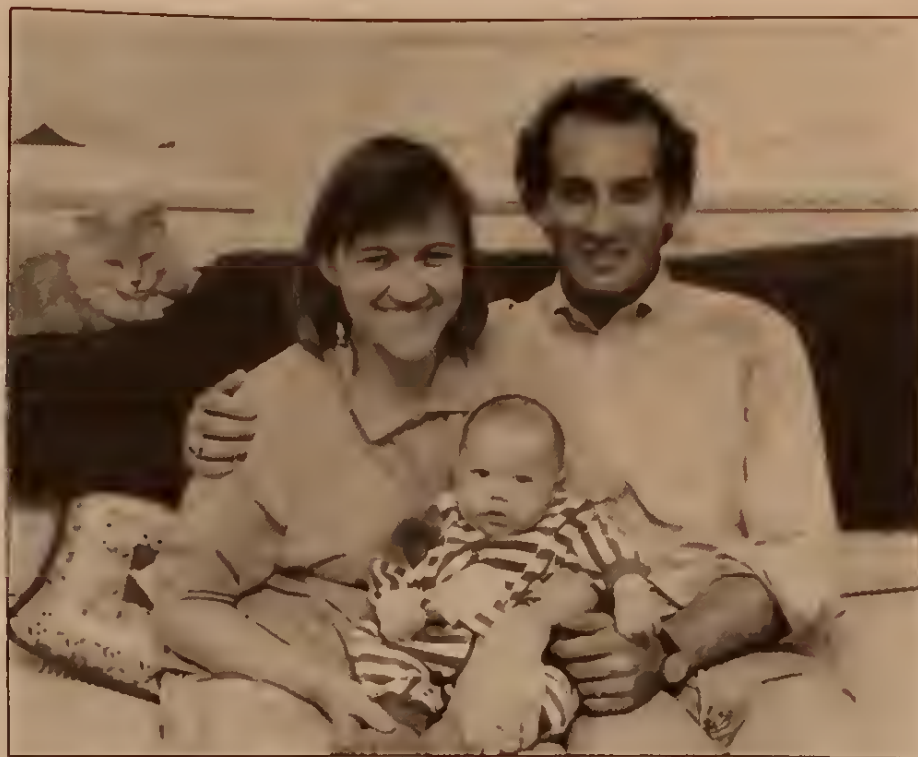
## Zachary Aaron Land-Miller

Zachary Aaron was born to parents Crystal Land (who writes frequently for the *Voice*) and Will Miller, on March 5, 1991, at 6:54 a.m.

Zachary weighed in at a respectable 7 pounds, 12 ounces—certainly nothing to sneeze at—but his real claim to fame, 2½ months and 6 pounds later, is that "he's got five thighs!" jokes Mom. Add to this picture of plumpness a set of very long eyelashes, an endearing smile, and, notes Will, "this great look he gives out of the sides of his eyes—sort of coy," and you've got one adorable and adored baby.

"He's a pretty happy camper," says Will, 30. Adds 29-year-old Crystal, "He was smiling at six weeks and laughing at eight." These days, the things that make him happiest include ogling a beloved black and white mobile, and "eating his hands, sometimes even both at once," reports Will.

Mom and Dad are Bernal Heights residents with a Noe Valley history and a propensity to eat breakfasts out—with Zach in tow—at the Meat Market Coffeehouse on 24th Street. They met in 1979 at the end of their senior year in a Southern California high school, became



Zachary Aaron Land-Miller poses with mom and dad Crystal Land and Will Miller. His parents say Zach and feline friend Tiger are up and crawling at the crack of dawn.

PHOTO BY LORENE WARWICK

college sweethearts while both were attending colleges in the Bay Area, and married in 1987.

"We're very complimentary to each other," observes Will. "Crystal's free and fanciful, I'm a little more on the practical side. Over time, we just melded into a nice middle ground."

"We're really good friends too," adds Crystal.

Sometimes the couple misses the old days, "when we had more alone-time together," says Crystal, but on the other hand, "now we're on a completely different level with each other than we've ever

experienced, because we're both responsible for Zach."

Thus far, life on the parent-track has been a crack-of-dawn experience, given that Zach is an early riser—and neither parent would mind getting a little more shut-eye. Plus, juggling two full-time jobs—Crystal is a high school English teacher/administrator, and Will is a commercial real estate developer—and a baby requires more coordination than a three-ring circus.

But the Land-Miller family is going full steam ahead. "You just have to not be afraid to keep living your life," says

Crystal. "We've tried to integrate Zach into our social life. He goes where we go, and he's pretty adaptable."

"We were pretty ready for Zach," says Will. "That is, we're the organized types—we had everything we needed to have."

"But you can't ever really be ready. I have a metaphor for it. It's like trying to tell somebody what they're going to see after they come out of the tunnel that's just before the Golden Gate Bridge, on the way to San Francisco. You travel through a long dark space, then you pop out into this breathtaking view of the city and the bridge and the bay."

"It's overwhelming and it's wonderful, and no one could have prepared you for it." □

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*Sacred Portal: A guardian angel keeps watch over 24th Street from the former sanctuary of Antiquis Bishopole. PHOTO BY ED BURYN*

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## New Baby in the House?

**Tell the world.**

The Noe Valley Voice is aware that there are lots of new babies (and proud parents) out there who'd just love to have their pictures in the paper. So don't be shy. Let us know about that new arrival, and we'll be happy to spread the news in our "More Mouths To Feed" column. Send us your birth announcement c/o the Noe Valley Voice, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. We promise a good review.



Here's a selection of the latest shelf life at the Noe Valley Library, provided by librarians Roberta Greifer (adult books) and Carol Small (children's literature). The library is located at 451 Jersey St. near Castro and is open Tuesdays, 10 a.m. to noon and 1 to 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, 1 to 9 p.m.; and Thursday through Saturday, 1 to 6 p.m. For more suggestions, call 695-5095.

#### Adult Fiction

In *Immortality*, Milan Kundera, the author of *The Unbearable Lightness of Being*, reflects on the meaning of love and the individual's role in Western society.

Sarah Bird's *The Mummy Club* is a humorous look at motherhood and the yuppie lifestyle, as seen through the eyes of Trudy, a 38-year-old drifter persuaded to serve as "incubator" for her boss' child.

*One-Eyed Kings*, by William S. Cohen, United States senator from Maine, is a Cold War thriller that's set in the very near future.

In *Thicker Than Water* by Kathryn Harrison, a child emotionally abandoned by her mother undergoes a painful but spellbinding metamorphosis into adulthood.

With authors ranging from Alice Walker to Mohammed Khudayyir, *Vital Signs*, edited by Dorothy Sennett, is an international collection of short stories that challenge our preconceptions of the aged



## MORE Books to Read

#### Adult Non-Fiction

*A Field Guide to Retirement*, by Alice and Fred Lee, examines 14 different options available to the newly retired—from nomading to living in Hawaii.

Anne Massey's fully-illustrated art book, *Interior Design of the Twentieth Century*, covers Art Deco, Pop, Hi Tech, and Post-Modernism, among other current styles.

*A Lot to Ask*, by Hazel Holt, portrays in intimate detail the life of the elusive novelist Barbara Pym.

*The Place I Call Home* is a moving work by Lois Stavsky that features the candid narratives of 31 homeless teenagers living in shelters, welfare hotels, or on the street. Complete with compelling events and

colorful characters, *The Prize*, by Daniel Yergin, depicts the history of oil up to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

#### Children's Fiction

The boat created by the enterprising main character in *Louise Builds a Boat*, by Louise Pfanner, has all the amenities a child could want—including a crow's nest for watching dolphins and a gangplank for practicing diving. Ages 4–6.

*Pinky and Rex Get Married* is a "best-friend" story by James Howe in which Pinky and Rex create their own lovely, childlike wedding ceremony. Ages 6–8.

Judy Blume's *Fudge-A-Mania* continues the adventures of Peter Hatcher and his younger brother Fudge, who is planning

to marry Peter's enemy Sheila Tuhman. Ages 8–10.

In *Chain of Fire*, by Beverly Naidoo, the South African government has decided that the residents of Bophelong must leave their homes and re-locate, but Naledi and her associates refuse to accept the decision. Ages 10 and up.

#### Children's Non-Fiction

*Peace Begins With You*, by Katherine

Scholes, explains why "peace is not a gap between times of fighting," but rather "something that lives, grows, spreads, and needs to be looked after." Ages 6 and up.

*California Indians: An Illustrated Guide*, by George Emanuels, provides brief but informative sketches of 17 Native American tribes, including the Miwok and Pomo.

In *Great Lives: Human Rights*, William Jay Jacobs profiles 30 people from various eras in American history who protected and defended human rights. Ages 8 and up.

Milton Meltzer's *Columbus and the World Around Him* describes the voyages of Columbus and gives some surprising information about Columbus the man, including his attitudes toward and treatment of Native Americans. Ages 10 and up.



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**MEDITATION WORKSHOP.** This practical workshop will enable students to begin meditation on their own. A clear understanding of what meditation is, how it works, and how to make it an enjoyable daily experience will be presented. Tuesday, May 25, 7:30 to 9 p.m., \$5. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St., SF 821-1117.

**CLOTHING ALTERATIONS,** repairs, mending. Ties narrowed, comforter covers. Call for appointment. 285-3826.

**FOOO NOT BOMBS** activists. Large truck. Haul/move. Fast/fair. 641-7378.

**SEEKING TO SUBLET** flat or apartment for one week, Sept. 21-29, approximately, for visiting parents. Call Susan. 647-6227.

**JOURNEY INTO MOTHERHOOD:** A Journal Writing Workshop for Pregnant Women and New Mothers gives you the time, focus, and support to deeply connect with your child, yourself, and other mothers. Twelve-week series starts July 25. Call Leslie, experienced writer-mother-teacher, 285-1926.

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**OFFICE OR STUDIO SPACE** for rent in upper 24th Street Noe Valley house, 130 square feet. Sunny, quiet, overlooks garden. Daytime use, non-smoking. 695-1378 after 7 p.m. \$300/month, includes utilities.

**HEALING MASSAGE.** Women only, please. Release pain, tension; restore well-being and freedom to your body and mind. Shiatsu, aromatherapy, therapeutic bodywork. Introductory offer, \$25/hour. Psychic counseling also available. Oominica, 821-2378.

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**SEEKING TO LEASE** attorney office space in Noe Valley. Prefer flat zoned commercial. Please call 626-3261.

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**SUBLET** from June 26 to July 24, in a beautiful one-bedroom, one-bath Noe Valley flat for compulsively neat, non-smoking human with excellent references. Hot tub/amenities. \$1,000 or \$300 per week. 821-6640.

**RIPE FRUIT WRITING WORKSHOPS:** A greenhouse for your imagination. One-day creative writing intensive, June 8. Twelve-week workshop starts Tuesdays, July 23. Call Leslie Kirk Campbell, poet, playwright, fiction writer, 285-1926.

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**TRANSFORM YOUR JUNGLE** into a paradise. Clean-ups, pruning, lawns, planting, maintenance, irrigation. Also decks, fences, etc. Remember, it's time to prune. Call Jorge for free estimates. 826-7840.

**EXPERT PAINTER** performs the highest quality work at the lowest possible price. Educated, licensed, 21 years' experience. All painting options, procedures, and materials explained in detail. Richard Schaedel, 383-1847.

**POETRY WANTED.** The Noe Valley Voice welcomes submissions of poetry, particularly those related to neighborhood themes, people, or places. Payment: \$10 to \$40 per poem, upon publication. Send submissions with self-addressed, stamped envelope (and a phone number, please) to the Noe Valley Voice, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114.

## How to Use Voice Class Ads

The rate for classified advertising in the Noe Valley Voice is 25¢ a word. Just type or print your copy, multiply the number of words by 25¢, enclose a check or money order for the full amount, and mail it to us by the 15th of the month preceding the month of issue.

It also would be a big help if you would indicate whether you are renewing an ad from a previous issue and, if so, include a copy of the published ad with your renewal.

Class advertisers should keep in mind that only the first few words of the ad (not to exceed one line of type) will be highlighted in all caps.

Our address is 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Note: The next issue of the Voice, appearing July 2, will be a double-issue and will be on the streets for two months, July and August. (The Voice staff will be on vacation in July, and will return in August to publish the September issue.) Please mail your ad and check—made payable to the Noe Valley Voice—so that we receive it by June 15. Sorry, but we are unable to take phone or drop-in orders.

Also note: We cannot accept payment for insertions in more than six issues. Receipts and tear sheets will be provided only if your order is accompanied by a self-addressed, stamped envelope. □

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# CALENDAR

**JUNE 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29:** St. Mary's Hospital and Medical Center's Saturday RESPIRE PROGRAM offers safe social activities for people with Alzheimer's Disease and other dementing illnesses. 10 am-3 pm 35 Dnondaga St. For information call program manager Grace D'Anca 334-4000

**JUNE 1-9:** Tim Baskerville, Diana Lawrence, Katie Murphy, and Deborah Sibony continue their exhibit of MONOTYPES, photo silkscreens, and mixed-media work titled "On to More Pressing Matters." Tue., Wed. & Thurs., 9 am-8 pm; Fri. & Sat., 9 am-6 pm; Sun., 10 am-4 pm. Meat Market Coffeehouse, 4123 24th St. 285-5598

**JUNE 1-30:** "Queer Pix," an exhibition of PHOTOGRAPHS by Rick Gerharter, is featured at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint. Reception June 5, 5:30-7 pm. 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

**JUNE 1-30:** Ruth M. Ellingson's exhibit "Dreamscapes" features HAND-TINTED PHOTOGRAPHS of the city and the desert. The E Gallery, Tallulah's, 1233 Castro St. 826-0222.

**JUNE 1-JULY 7:** Two couples, one gay and one Mormon, face a struggle to reconcile love and responsibility in Tony Kushner's DRAMA, *Angels in America* Wed., Thurs. & Sun., 7:30 pm, Fri. & Sat., 8 pm. Matinees June 9, 15 & 30 and July 6 & 7, 2 pm. Eureka Theatre Company, 2730 16th St. 558-9898.

**JUNE 1-AUG. 31:** Friends of CALLIGRAPHY presents "Kalligraphia," featuring the work of its local and international members, plus Saturday afternoon demonstrations in the art of lettering. Mon. Wed. Thurs. & Sat., 10 am-6 pm; Tues., noon-9 pm; Fri., noon-6 pm; Sun. 1-5 pm. Reception June 9, 2-4 pm. San Francisco Public Library, Main Branch, Larkin & McAllister 5574560.

**JUNE 4:** Police Officer Lois Perillo, Supervisor Roberta Achtenberg, and Gayle Orr-Smith, the city's deputy mayor for fire and safety, will be among the speakers at a Noe Valley TOWN HALL MEETING sponsored by three neighborhood groups. 7 pm. James Lick School, 1220 Noe St. 285-1496.



Kids will have a chance to play with clay under the eye of professional potters at a spring exhibit and sale June 9.

**JUNE 4-29:** S.F. Camerawork gallery exhibits the PHOTOGRAPHS of Maria Martinez-Cañas, "Historia Dislante," and Betty Lee, "Contemplation of the Journey Home." Tues.-Sat., noon-5 pm. Reception June 4, 6-8 pm. 70 Twelfth St. 621-1001.

**JUNE 5:** The San Francisco Recreation Symphony offers a free CONCERT of music for children. 6-7 pm. Academy of Sciences, Hall of Man, Golden Gate Park. 666-7200.

## JUNE 1991



Starting June 23, voice writer Florence Holub's paintings and drawings, including this portrait of the Noe Valley Ministry, will be exhibited along with husband Leo Holub's photographs at Gallery Sanchez.

**JUNE 6:** Kairos House, a community resource for caregivers of HIV-affected persons, celebrates its third anniversary with a FUNDRAISER DINNER and raffle. 5-9 pm. The Edge, 18th and Colingwood. 861-0877.

**JUNE 6-22:** The Off-Garde Theatre Group performs four ONE-ACT PLAYS by Pulitzer Prize-nominee John Guare. Thurs.-Sat., 8 pm. Center Space Theatre, 2840 Mariposa St. 928-6374.

**JUNE 7:** Sri Swami Prakashananda Ma teaches a WORKSHOP on weight loss through yoga. 7:30-9 pm. Integral Yoga Institute, 770 Dolores St. 821-1117.

**JUNE 7 & 8:** Taksu, the MYTH AND MASK Ensemble of the Dell'Arte School of Physical Theatre, performs an absurd creation tale, "An Order of Chaos to Go And Keep the Change." 8 pm. New College Theatre, 777 Valencia St. 626-0884.

**JUNE 8:** WORLO FUSION band Ancient Future celebrates its fifth album, *World Without Walls*. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

**JUNE 8:** The Palestine Aid Society of America sponsors its third annual PALESTINE WALK, a 10K fundraising and solidarity walkathon, at 10 am, rally is scheduled for 1-4 pm. Dolores Park. For more information, call 591-9359.

**JUNE 8 & 9:** The San Francisco CITY CHORUS performs the "Misa Criolla" by Ramirez and the "Lord Nelson Mass" by Haydn. June 8, 8 pm; June 9, 5 pm. Did Mission Dolores, Dolores & 17th. 666-7107.

**JUNE 8 & 9:** Find treasures galore at the Dominican Guild's GARAGE SALE. 10 am-4 pm. ICA Cafeteria, 24th & Guerrero. 824-2052.

**JUNE 8-JULY 13:** Fobbo Gallery displays the "menacingly playful and viscerally-charged" PAINTINGS of two artists, S.L.T. and A.M.H. Wed.-Sat., 1-7 pm. Reception June 8, 6-8:30 pm. 3747 23rd St. 695-0640.

**JUNE 9:** The Bay Area Coalition for Our Reproductive Rights sponsors a BURRITO BASH to benefit a clinic escort on friar in Sacramento. 2-7 pm. Die Fajitas, 577 Valencia St. 541-5690.

**JUNE 9:** Spanish songs and music and dance of the Congo will highlight Sound Magic for Kids/Musica Para Niños' BENEFIT for Bien Dia Family School's artist-in-residence, Megan Bierman. 2:30 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 431-3535.

**JUNE 9:** The Association of California CERAMIC ARTISTS' Spring Exhibition and Sale offers the ceramic and glass work of over 50 artists, and a clay workshop for children ages 5-12. 10 am-5 pm. County Fair Bldg., Ninth Ave. at Lincoln Way. 731-9339.

**JUNE 10:** Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders (GLOE) hosts "Reading/Talking Women," a potluck and DISCUSSION of Mrs. Stevens Hears the Mermaid Singing by May Sarton. 6:30-8:30 pm. 77 Walter St. 626-7000.

**JUNE 10-30:** "Waves and Layers," a photographic archeology of San Francisco's diverse communities, features the work of students from San Francisco's SCHOOL OF THE ARTS Cowell Theatre Gallery, Fort Mason, Beach & Laguna. 695-5720.

**JUNE 11:** The Noe Valley Library continues its program of CHILDREN'S FILMS with movies for pre-schoolers at 10 and 11 am; and for children 6 and older at 3:30 pm. 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

**JUNE 11 & 30:** Anastasia teaches two Greek and Middle-Eastern COOKING WORKSHOPS in June. 3-6 pm. Call 826-5886 for registration.

**JUNE 11-JULY 27:** Galeria de la Raza/Studio 24 exhibits the paintings and installation works of CHICANO ARTISTS John Valadez and Patssi Valdez. Tues.-Sat. noon-6 pm. 2857 24th St. 826-8009.



Two initials-only artists, S.L.T. and A.M.H., affirm the vitality of pigment and oil in an exhibit called "For the Burning," opening June 8 at Fobbo Gallery. PAINTING BY S.L.T.

**JUNE 13:** Karin Kallmaker, author of *In Every Port*, reads from her new LESBIAN MYSTERY *Touchwood*. 7:30 pm. Old Wives' Tales Bookstore, 1009 Valencia St. 821-4675.

**JUNE 14-29:** She's in the Altic Productions showcases James Bosley's DARK DRAMA *Fun*, based on a real-life incident involving two abused teen-aged girls who murder an elderly woman. Thurs., Fri. & Sat., 8 pm. Capp Street Center, 362 Capp St. 452-3350.

**JUNE 14 & 15:** McFarland 8ALLET THEATRE performs "White Swan Pas de Deux" and "Don Quixote Pas de Deux," choreographed by Malchom McFarland after Marius Petipa. 8:30 pm. Theatre at Third Wave, 3316 24th St. 474-8657.

**JUNE 15:** The Bay Area Coalition for Our Reproductive Rights needs volunteers to ensure women's safe access to abortion clinics threatened by an "Operation Rescue" blockade. Meet 6 am at the Pregnancy Consultation Center, 1801 Bush St. 541-5690.

**JUNE 16:** The Stern Grove Festival Association's 54th annual Midsummer MUSIC FESTIVAL opens Father's Day with the male a cappella vocal group Chanticleer, the Kronos Quartet, the San Francisco Girls Chorus, San Francisco Taiko Dojo, and alumni of the Pickle Family Circus. 2 pm. Stern Grove, 19th Ave. & Sloat Blvd. 252-6252.

**JUNE 18:** Karen Talbot, head of the Women's Peace Office in San Francisco, discusses the after-effects of Desert Storm in "We, the People of the United Nations" at the Gray Panthers' monthly meeting. 12:30-3 pm. First Congregational Church, 1187 Franklin St. 664-6282.

**JUNE 19:** Sex educator and former erotic dancer Carol Queen leads a WORKSHOP for women, "Exhibitionism for the Shy." 7-9 pm. Good Vibrations, 1210 Valencia St. 550-7399.

**JUNE 21-30:** Over 100 film and video works will be shown at the 15th San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay FILM FESTIVAL at the Roxie and Castro theatres. Call 861-5245 for a schedule.

**JUNE 22:** Psychic Horizons sponsors a PSYCHIC READING FAIR at the Noe Valley Ministry. 2-4 pm. 1021 Sanchez St. 346-7906.

**JUNE 22:** The premiere performance of Oanca Mulli-Cultural JAZZ DANCE Company features a guest appearance by Carlos Matosinhos, lead singer with the band Slice of Brasil. 8 pm. New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St. 863-9834.

**JUNE 22:** Pamela Z creates solo vocal PERFORMANCE MUSIC with electronic processing and found percussion objects, and Nebuchadnezzar Pez Dispenser performs text-sound compositions with voice, strings, percussion, and reeds. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

**JUNE 23:** The Freedom Socialist Party's SEMINAR series, "A Marxist-Feminist Perspective on War and Capitalism," focuses on "The Home Front. Restiveness, Polarization, and the Leadership Vacuum." 11 am-1 pm. Valencia Hall, 523A-Valencia St. 864-1278.

**JUNE 23:** Preservation Hall JAZZ BAND plays its vintage New Orleans sound in a free outdoor concert at Stern Grove. 2 pm. 19th Ave. & Sloat Blvd. 252-6252.



Experience the hand-tinted version of this photo of the Palace of Fine Arts, among Ruth Ellingson's "Dreamscapes" at the E Gallery this month.

**JUNE 23-JULY 13:** In celebration of their 50th wedding anniversary, Voice staffers FLORENCE AND LEO HOLUB exhibit their paintings, drawings, and photographs at Gallery Sanchez. Mon.-Sat., noon-5 pm. Reception July 7, 3-5 pm. Noe Valley Ministry, 1021 Sanchez St. 282-2317.

**JUNE 28:** Bantone guitarist and songwriter John Gorka performs contemporary FOLK MUSIC from his new Windham Hill album, *Jack's Crows*. 8:15 pm. Noe Valley Music Series, 1021 Sanchez St. 647-2272.

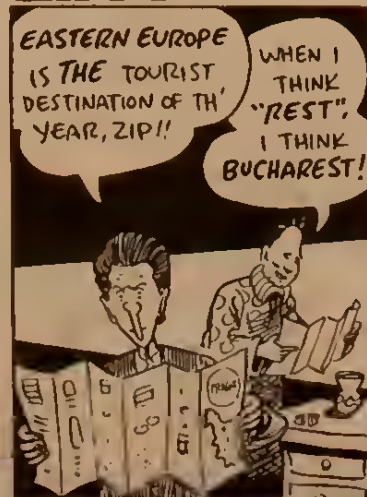
**JUNE 29:** The Noe Valley HISTORY DAY celebration features Annie the Clown's antics for children at 1 pm, the music of Bruce Sherman at 2:30 pm, a photo exhibit of Noe Valley in the 1930's, a video on Noe Valley history, and refreshments. 1-5 pm. Noe Valley Library, 451 Jersey St. 695-5095.

**JUNE 30:** The Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day PARADE begins at Spear and Market and proceeds to festivities at the Civic Center, noon-6 pm.

## The Scoop on CALENDAR

Please send calendar items before the 15th day of the month preceding the month of issue to the *Noe Valley Voice*, 1021 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Items are published on a space-available basis, with Noe Valley neighborhood events receiving priority. Note: The next issue of the *Voice* will be a double-issue covering both July and August, and will appear July 2. The deadline for calendar items is June 15.

## ZIPPY



## "BUCKET O' BLINI"

